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THE HINDU

INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

SATURDAY, MAY 21, 2022

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
18 pages • ₹6.00

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NEARBY

CM announces setting up of zonal-level task force

BENGALURU

Days after heavy rains wreaked havoc in Bengaluru drawing people's ire against the government of Karnataka and former Chief Minister S.M. Krishna appealing to protect 'Brand Bengaluru', Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai announced setting up of zonal-level task force, each of them to be headed by a Minister. The move of setting up zonal task force has drawn the ire of civic activists championing the cause of the 74th amendment to the Constitution that provides for local self-government.

BENGALURU ▸ PAGE 5

PROPERTYPLUS ▸ PAGE 4

Rain claims two more lives in State

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Even as the skies let up in Bengaluru, rains lashed several other parts of Karnataka claiming two lives, one in Shivamogga district and the other in Yadgir district.

Shankar, a farmer in of Melina Tuduru village near Tirthahalli in Shivamoga district, was found dead in a pond on his farm. The inflow into reservoirs has been increasing, forcing the authorities to open crest gates of Tunga reservoir in Shivamogga and Yagachi in Belur. Shivamogga district has seen heavy damage to harvested crops.

In Yadgir, Yamanappa B. Kodli was killed when he was hit by lightning at Horatti village. Another person was injured after a branch of a tree fell on him near Gol Gumbaz in Vijayapura.

The districts of north Karnataka continued to receive normal to heavy rainfall on Friday and life remained disrupted with road connectivity getting disconnected in some parts.

Though there was a red alert in coastal Karnataka, Dakshina Kannada and Udupi districts received only scattered rains on Friday.

29 phones tested for Pegasus spyware: SC

Court gives more time to its panel to submit probe report

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday said its technical committee had so far received and tested 29 mobile devices suspected to be infected by Pegasus malware and gave it four weeks to submit a report to Justice R.V. Raveendran, a retired top court judge overseeing the panel's inquiry into reports that the government used the Israel-based spyware to snoop on journalists, parliamentarians, prominent citizens and even court staff.

Opening the interim report submitted by the committee in court, a Special Bench led by Chief Justice of India N.V. Ramana said the committee had developed its own protocol/software to test the devices for malware.

The committee also recorded the statements of petitioners, who had approached the court. It has also contacted experts and agencies, including those of the government.

The committee has further undertaken a "public consultation exercise" to invite comments on the subject of inquiry. The CJI read out the interim report to lawyers, including senior advocate Kapil Sibal, for the petitioners, and Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, for the Centre.

The interim report said the committee had got a "large number of responses". It was awaiting responses from the agencies.

The committee said its investigation would be completed by the end of May 2022. The interim report said the overseeing judge, Justice Raveendran, assisted by two experts, would then require another 15 days to study the recommendations of the committee.

The interim report sought an extension of time till June 20, 2022 to complete the exercise and file a comprehensive report before the court. "We will give them time," the CJI told the lawyers, who agreed.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 10

Seeking answers

The Supreme Court, which ordered a probe last year into the allegations of **use of Israeli spyware Pegasus by government agencies for targeted surveillance of politicians, journalists and activists**, has asked its technical committee to unearth the following:

1. Whether Pegasus was used on phones or other devices of the citizens to access data, eavesdrop & intercept information
2. Details of the victims of Pegasus attack, if any
3. The steps taken by the government after reports were published in 2019 about hacking of WhatsApp accounts of citizens
4. If any government agency has used the Pegasus, then under what law

SC panel indicts Telangana police

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL
NEW DELHI

2019 KILLINGS

A Supreme Court-appointed Commission of Inquiry said on Friday that the Telangana police had killed the four suspects detained in the 2019 gang-rape and murder of a veterinarian in cold blood. Three of the four shot to death were juveniles.

The Inquiry Commission led by former Supreme Court judge, Justice V.S. Sirpurkar, said the police version that the four had thrown soil in the eyes of a dozen police personnel escorting them, snatched their guns and fired at them in several places was "absurd".

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 10
RELATED REPORT ▸ PAGE 7

Gyanvapi case sent to district judge

SC wants a 'more experienced judicial officer'

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday transferred the Gyanvapi masjid suit proceedings from a civil judge to the district judge of Varanasi, saying the social complexities of the dispute required a "more senior and experienced judicial officer" at the helm.

A Special Bench led by Justice D.Y. Chandrachud directed the district judge to hear on priority an application filed by Anjuman Intejamia Masjid, the mosque's caretakers, questioning the very maintainability of the suit filed by five Hindu women who wanted untrammelled rights to worship Maa Shringar Gauri, Lord Ganesh, Lord Hanuman and other "visible and invisible deities" within the mosque premises in Varanasi.

Prayer time: Muslims arriving in large numbers at the Gyanvapi mosque in Varanasi on Friday. • PTI

Meanwhile, the top court said its May 17 interim order to protect the area where a *shivling* was reportedly found would continue while Muslims would be able to offer *namaaz* in the mosque. "Our interim orders are not perfect solutions... these are complex social problems. But at least in our orders we are concerned about the need to maintain a sense of balance on the ground. There is a degree of healing touch," Justice Chandrachud said.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 10
EDITORIAL ▸ PAGE 8

Expedite civic body elections in Bengaluru: Supreme Court

The polls are crucial and seen by many as a precursor to the Assembly elections

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday paved the way for conducting elections to the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), two years after its previous term came to an end.

The elections are crucial and is seen by many as a precursor to the Karnataka Assembly polls due in 2023.

Critics argue that the elections have been postponed deliberately by the ruling BJP to fortify the positions of its MLAs, who have been calling the shots in Bengaluru in the absence of a civic body.

Bengaluru contributes 12.5% of the seats in the Karnataka Legislative Assembly and over 60% of the State's revenue annually.

On Friday, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for Karnataka, assured a Bench led by Justice A.M. Khanwilkar that delimitation of wards for the civic body polls was in its "final stage" and a "dedicated commission" was also in the process of determining the reservation to be provided for Other Backward Classes (OBCs) ahead of the elections.

Mr. Mehta said a "new" municipal corporation had been constituted under the BBMP Act, 2020, which came into effect from January 11, 2021. The government wasted no time in proceeding with the delimitation and the formation of the dedicated commission for determining the OBC percentage.

The State said the delimitation of wards and the carving out of OBC reservation would be completed and notified within eight weeks.

The court recorded the undertaking and further directed the State Election Commission (SEC) "to commence its preparatory exercise for conducting the elections to install the newly elected body".

The court ordered that the SEC could begin its preparatory exercise within one week of the notification of delimitation of wards or determination of OBC reservation, whichever of the two comes later. To a request to fix a deadline for the SEC to conduct the polls, Justice Khanwilkar replied that "there may be a variety of factors... Monsoon may not permit holding of elections... We don't know. The Election Commission will decide. It is an independent, constitutional body. It will deal with it".

WE ARE READY TO HOLD BBMP COUNCIL POLLS: CM ▸ PAGE 6

Karnataka mining: Apex court permits firms to export excavated iron ore

Firms allowed to enter into contracts to lift such ore through inter-State sales

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday permitted mining firms to sell outside the State and export already excavated iron ore from mines in the districts of Ballari, Chitradurga, and Tumakuru in Karnataka without having to resort to the process of e-auction.

A Bench comprising Chief Justice N.V. Ramana and Justices Krishna Murari and Hima Kohli took note of the stand of the Central government and lifted the curb on the export of iron ore and asked the firms to observe the conditions imposed by the authorities.

"Keeping in mind all the ... factors, we are inclined to favourably consider the prayer made by the applicants and grant them permission to sell the already excavated iron ore stock-pile at various mines and stockyards located in the districts of Ballari, Tumakuru, and Chitradurga in the State of Karnataka, without having to resort to the process of e-auction," the 24-page order said.

It also permitted the mining firms to enter into direct contracts to lift the excavated iron ore through inter-State sales. "We also grant permission to the applicants to export the iron ore and pellets manufactured from the iron ore produced from the mines situated in the State of Karnataka, to countries abroad, as is being done in the rest of the country, but strictly in terms of the extant policy of the Government of India," the CJI, writing the order for the Bench, said.

The apex court took note of the fact that the Union Ministries of steel and the mines have supported the applications moved by the mining firms.

Once a beggar, this girl is now an achiever

Yadgir girl emerges as a role model by coming out in flying colours in SSLC examination

JAYANTH R.
BENGALURU

N. Sonu has not had an easy childhood. Only eight years ago, she was found begging with her father in front of the Gundanjaneya Temple at Sanjeevanagar, Hebbal, here. On Thursday, as the results of the SSLC exam were announced, Sonu had scripted a success story, scoring 96.32%, taking her a step closer to her dream of becoming a software engineer.

As a five-year-old, Sonu migrated to Bengaluru from Yadgir in north Karnataka with her father after her mother's demise. They stayed on the outskirts of the city and depended on construction work to make a living. Her father, under the influence of alcohol, would assault her, leading the neighbours to file a complaint with the police. After a police warning, her father mended his ways and they shifted to Sanjeevanagar. They would beg in front of the temple till the evening, and then take shelter in the same temple at night.

N. Sonu.

A volunteer from the Sparsha Trust, which works with children, found the girl in front of the temple while she was begging and rescued her. They convinced her father and took her to the trust's residential home at Hesaraghatta. Then, they got her enrolled in Class III in the Government Higher Primary school at Sahakarnagar and she studied there up to Class VIII.

Tragedy struck again when she was in Class VIII as her father died. The trust took complete care of Sonu and put her in the Vivekananda Vidyavardhaka School for further studies. She studied IX and X here and in the SSLC exam, got a total of 602 marks out of 625. She managed to score 125 out of 125 in Kannada (first language), 96 in English, 99 in Hindi, 98 in Maths, 86 in Science, and 98 in Social Science.

Along with a good academic track record, Sonu is also good at painting, Kathak, and tennis, her caretakers said.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Sonu said: "I will take computer science in PU and want to become a software engineer. It is the biggest dream of my life."

Recalling Sonu's journey, Sparsha Trust managing trustee Gopinath said: "When she came to our residential home eight years ago, we never imagined that this girl will make such an achievement. Because of factors including habits of parents, family's financial condition, some social evils, etc., children become casualties. Every year, we rescue nearly 100 to 150 orphans. Sonu is a real achiever and role model for everybody. We will completely take care of her up to her higher education. Then, will help her with employment and settling down in life."

• GETTY IMAGES

Carlos, king in waiting

Alcaraz appears to have leapfrogged Zverev, Medvedev, Tsitsipas and Berrettini in tennis' line of succession. Can the 19-year-old begin to prove he is the Big Three's natural heir on the Parisian stage over the coming fortnight?

N. SUDARSHAN

Not since a teenaged Rafael Nadal took the tennis world by storm in the spring and summer of 2005 has any male player generated as much buzz as Carlos Alcaraz. Back then, an 18-year-old Nadal came within two points of a straight-set victory over the then World No. 1 Roger Federer in his first-ever ATP Masters 1000 final in Miami, swept the prestigious French Open tune-ups in Monte Carlo, Barcelona and Rome and entered the ATP top-10 en route.

Teen sensation

In 2022, an 18-year-old Alcaraz reached the semifinals at Indian Wells, won the Miami Masters and clinched Barcelona to secure a place in the top-10, the youngest since Nadal to do so. It was followed by a victory in Madrid, where Alcaraz defeated Nadal and World No. 1 Novak Djokovic on successive days. This made him the first man to beat the duo at the same clay tournament and the youngest – he turned 19 during the event – anywhere.

So much so that even those who do not live and breathe tennis seem to be furiously feeling the vibes. And going into the French Open, which starts on Sunday, another significant achievement that can align Alcaraz's career neatly alongside Nadal's seems within the realm of possibility – of winning a first Major while still in the teens, a feat so remarkable that no man has managed it since Nadal in 2005.

It will be to Alcaraz's credit if he doesn't allow Nadal's historic high to become his cross to bear. While the similarities are seemingly endless – Spanish nationality and a fondness for sleeveless attire, among them – a few of the attributes he shares with his illustrious countryman can actually stand Alcaraz in good stead.

Groomed by a sports-loving family – his father and grandfather were both tennis players – and coached by a former French Open champion in Juan Carlos Ferrero, Alcaraz is absolutely fearless on court, but totally modest off it. There have been no instances of temper-induced tantrums – a staple of the men's game of late – and on more than one occasion he has conceded a point that he felt was wrongly decided in his favour.

It helps that Alcaraz's ascendency comes at a time when surface-centric stereotyping is slow to stick, unlike in the times when Nadal started, thus leading to dispassionate analysis. The two also aren't stylistic analogues, game-wise, helping Alcaraz sidestep the entrapped feeling, even as he conjures among the fans an image of a Spanish matador quite like Nadal.

> **The comparison with Nadal, for me, is not good. It's the precocity of the two that make them look alike. In terms of play, he seems more complete [at a similar stage] than Nadal, Djokovic and Federer. For me he's a good mix of the three**
>
> JUSTINE HENIN, Seven-time Major champion

> **Ball speed was incredible. I've never seen someone hit the ball so hard. Took time to adjust**
>
> STEFANOS TSITSIPAS, After 2021 US Open defeat to Alcaraz

In an interview with Belgian newspaper *Sudinfo*, Justine Henin, a former World No. 1 and seven-time Major champion, said: "The comparison with Nadal, for me, is not good. It's the precocity of the two that make them look alike. In terms of play, he seems more complete [at a similar stage] than Nadal, [Novak] Djokovic and Federer. For me he's a good mix of the three."

Alcaraz's forehand is closer to Federer's – in shape, swing, follow-through and repeatability. Like Djokovic, he is forceful off both wings and doesn't need pace to generate power. Stefanos Tsitsipas, Alcaraz's first top-10 scalp and whom the Spaniard beat again in Barcelona recently, attested to this after the 2021 US Open defeat. "Ball speed was incredible," the Greek said. "I've never seen someone hit the ball so hard. Took time to adjust."

And Alcaraz (6'1" tall) plays first-strike tennis, without the height advantage that the current generation of top players, Daniil Medvedev (6'6"), Alexander Zverev (6'6"), Tsitsipas (6'4") and Matteo Berrettini (6'5"), are blessed with. The ability to summon a point-ending shot when presented with the slightest of openings is a winning attribute. But when it doesn't come off, and the player is as young as Alcaraz, it is often construed as lack of patience and bad shot-selection.

It is here that Alcaraz towers above his peers with his composure and clarity of thought, against the toughest of opponents and under extreme duress. Journalist Matthew Willis pointed out that across the two wins over Nadal and Djokovic, Alcaraz hit 88 winners (of which only eight were aces) to the duo's combined 34.

The 'release shot', a pressure-relieving pull of the trigger that transfers all the nervous energy into the stroke, often to the player's detriment, rarely makes an appearance. It seems that Alcaraz has the feel for a shot, before, during and after execution. It is particularly evident in the way he dropshots, lobs, kick-serves his way out of trouble, the last of which he used successfully to trouble even the greatest of returners in Djokovic.

"That's what we are all a little bit surprised over, that he's able to play with a lot of variety," Mats Wilander, a seven-time Major winner, told *Eurosport*. "Of course, the variety for him is power, and also finesse, drop shots. I don't really see him playing with the different spins on the backhand yet. I don't think he's there yet, but in terms of the drop shots and the power, I think he probably knows more than Rafa knew at 19.

"I can understand Rafa more because he said 'this is how I play, and I'm going to find the best way to play the way I want to play, and I'm going to find the best way to play my opponent', whereas Alcaraz says a little bit more, 'okay, this is what I kind of need to do, the guy is far behind [the baseline], I'm going to hit some drop shots'. If you are too close to the baseline, then Carlos is going to play with power, and a little bit of height and push the guy back."

Stepping up

Whether Alcaraz can extend this meteoric rise and the accompanying success on the Grand Slam stage will be clear over the coming fortnight. For now, he has upended tennis' line of succession by leapfrogging Zverev, Medvedev, Tsitsipas and Berrettini. He certainly has the pedigree; this time last year, he had just broken into the top-100 but now he is World No. 6, owner of two Masters titles and a 28-3 win-loss record this year, including 8-2 against top-10 players.

There are signs that he has the temperament and lasting power to match, both crucial in the long-drawn, best-of-five-set format. In the win over Tsitsipas in New York, he digested a bagel in the fourth set to take the fifth in a tie-break. He beat Nadal in Madrid after surviving a sprained ankle and a mid-match blip. He outlasted Djokovic over 3 hours and 35 minutes, from a set down, an accomplishment beyond most players' reach.

But history shows that glory in the French capital is contingent on how much Nadal's mask of invincibility – fashioned over the course of a record 13 Roland-Garros titles – slips. This time, a flaring up of the chronic foot injury has opened up an opportunity for the others and some room for Alcaraz to be spoken of in the same breath.

"People are going to think that I'm one of the favourites to win Roland-Garros," Alcaraz said after the triumph in Madrid. "I don't have it as tension, I have it as motivation. I really look forward to going to Paris, to fight for the Grand Slam, and to show my great level in a Grand Slam, too."

> **People are going to think that I'm one of the favourites to win Roland-Garros. I don't have it as tension. I have it as motivation. I really look forward to going to Paris, to fight for the Grand Slam, and to show my great level in a Grand Slam, too**
>
> ALCARAZ

STACKING UP

ATP Men's Top 15

#	PLAYER	AGE	POINTS	EVENTS
1	Novak Djokovic	34	8,660	13
2	Daniil Medvedev	26	7,980	21
3	Alexander Zverev	25	7,200	22
4	Stefanos Tsitsipas	23	6,170	25
5	Rafael Nadal	35	5,525	10
6	Carlos Alcaraz	19	4,770	21
7	Andrey Rublev	24	3,945	26
8	Casper Ruud	23	3,940	28
9	Felix Auger-Aliassime	21	3,850	27
10	Matteo Berrettini	26	3,805	18
11	Cameron Norrie	26	3,355	27
12	Jannik Sinner	20	3,195	30
13	Hubert Hurkacz	25	3,095	27
14	Taylor Fritz	24	2,920	28
15	Denis Shapovalov	23	2,671	23

Top Indians ▸

Ramkumar Ramanathan
Rank 178 ▲1 spot

Prajnesh Gunneswaran
Rank 271 ▼3 spots

WTA Women's Top 15

#	PLAYER	AGE	POINTS	EVENTS
1	Iga Swiatek	20	7,061	17
2	Barbora Krejcikova	26	4,911	18
3	Paula Badosa	24	4,770	27
4	Maria Sakkari	26	4,726	18
5	Anett Kontaveit	26	4,446	22
6	Ons Jabeur	27	4,380	20
7	Aryna Sabalenka	24	3,966	20
8	Karolina Pliskova	30	3,568	16
9	Danielle Collins	28	3,315	19
10	Garbine Muguruza	28	3,031	18
11	Jessica Pegula	28	2,955	20
12	Emma Raducanu	19	2,910	23
13	Jelena Ostapenko	24	2,536	19
14	Belinda Bencic	25	2,525	19
15	Victoria Azarenka	32	2,440	17

Top Indians ▸

Ankita Raina
Rank 338 ▼3 spots

Karman Thandi
Rank 472 ▼25 spots

English Premier League Standings

#	TEAM	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1	Man. City	37	28	6	3	96	24	72	90
2	Liverpool	37	27	8	2	91	25	66	89
3	Chelsea	37	20	11	6	74	32	42	71
4	Tottenham	37	21	5	11	64	40	24	68
5	Arsenal	37	21	3	13	56	47	9	66
6	Man. United	37	16	10	11	57	56	1	58
7	West Ham	37	16	8	13	59	48	11	56
8	Wolves	37	15	6	16	37	40	-3	51
9	Leicester City	37	13	10	14	58	58	0	49
10	Brighton	37	11	15	11	39	43	-4	48
11	Brentford	37	13	7	17	47	54	-7	46
12	Newcastle	37	12	10	15	42	61	-19	46
13	Crystal Palace	37	10	15	12	49	46	3	45
14	Aston Villa	37	13	6	18	50	51	-1	45
15	Southampton	37	9	13	15	42	63	-21	40
16	Everton	37	11	6	20	42	61	-19	39
17	Burnley	37	7	14	16	33	51	-18	35
18	Leeds United	37	8	11	18	40	78	-38	35
19	Watford	37	6	5	26	33	75	-42	23
20	Norwich City	37	5	7	25	23	79	-56	22

Italian Serie A Standings

#	TEAM	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1	AC Milan	37	25	8	4	66	31	35	83
2	Inter Milan	37	24	9	4	81	32	49	81
3	Napoli	37	23	7	7	71	31	40	76
4	Juventus	37	20	10	7	57	35	22	70
5	Lazio	37	18	9	10	74	55	19	63
6	Roma	37	17	9	11	56	43	13	60
7	Fiorentina	37	18	5	14	57	51	6	59
8	Atalanta	37	16	11	10	65	47	18	59
9	Verona	37	14	10	13	62	56	6	52
10	Torino	37	13	11	13	46	38	8	50
11	Sassuolo	37	13	11	13	64	63	1	50
12	Udinese	37	10	14	13	57	58	-1	44
13	Bologna	37	11	10	16	43	55	-12	43
14	Empoli	37	9	11	17	49	70	-21	38
15	Sampdoria	37	10	6	21	46	60	-14	36
16	Spezia	37	10	6	21	41	68	-27	36
17	Salernitana	37	7	10	20	33	74	-41	31
18	Cagliari	37	6	11	20	34	68	-34	29
19	Genoa	37	4	16	17	27	59	-32	28
20	Venezia	37	6	8	23	34	69	-35	26

Spanish LaLiga Standings

#	TEAM	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1	Real Madrid	37	26	7	4	80	31	49	85
2	Barcelona	37	21	10	6	68	36	32	73
3	Atletico Madrid	37	20	8	9	63	42	21	68
4	Sevilla	37	17	16	4	52	30	22	67
5	Real Betis	37	19	7	11	62	40	22	64
6	Real Sociedad	37	17	11	9	39	35	4	62
7	Villarreal	37	15	11	11	61	37	24	56
8	Athletic Bilbao	37	14	13	10	43	35	8	55
9	Osasuna	37	12	11	14	37	49	-12	47
10	Celta Vigo	37	12	10	15	43	41	2	46
11	Valencia	37	10	15	12	46	53	-7	45
12	Rayo Vallecano	37	11	9	17	37	46	-9	42
13	Espanyol	37	10	11	16	40	53	-13	41
14	Getafe	37	8	15	14	32	38	-6	39
15	Elche	37	10	9	18	37	51	-14	39
16	Granada	37	8	13	16	44	61	-17	37
17	Real Mallorca	37	9	9	19	34	63	-29	36
18	Cadiz	37	7	15	15	34	51	-17	36
19	Levante	37	7	11	19	47	74	-27	32
20	Alaves	37	8	7	22	31	64	-33	31

German Bundesliga Standings

#	TEAM	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1	Bayern	34	24	5	5	97	37	60	77
2	Dortmund	34	22	3	9	85	52	33	69
3	Leverkusen	34	19	7	8	80	47	33	64
4	RB Leipzig	34	17	7	10	72	37	35	58
5	Union Berlin	34	16	9	9	50	44	6	57
6	SC Freiburg	34	15	10	9	58	46	12	55
7	Cologne	34	14	10	10	52	49	3	52
8	Mainz	34	13	7	14	50	45	5	46
9	Hoffenheim	34	13	7	14	58	60	-2	46
10	M'gladbach	34	12	9	13	54	61	-7	45
11	Eintracht	34	10	12	12	45	49	-4	42
12	Wolfsburg	34	12	6	16	43	54	-11	42
13	Bochum	34	12	6	16	38	52	-14	42
14	FC Augsburg	34	10	8	16	39	56	-17	38
15	Stuttgart	34	7	12	15	41	59	-18	33
16	Hertha Berlin	34	9	6	19	37	71	-34	33
17	Arminia Bielefeld	34	5	13	16	27	53	-26	28
18	Greuther Furth	34	3	9	22	28	82	-54	18

Test Batting

#	PLAYER	RATING	CAREER BEST
1	Marnus Labuschagne	892	936
2	Steve Smith	845	947
3	Kane Williamson	844	919
4	Joe Root	843	917
5	Babar Azam	815	815
6	Dimuth Karunaratne	781	781
7	Usman Khawaja	757	757
8	Rohit Sharma	754	813
9	Travis Head	744	773
10	Virat Kohli	742	937

Test Bowling

#	PLAYER	RATING	CAREER BEST
1	Pat Cummins	901	914
2	R. Ashwin	850	904
3	Jasprit Bumrah	830	835
4	Shaheen Afridi	827	827
5	Kyle Jamieson	820	825
6	Kagiso Rabada	818	902
7	Tim Southee	790	839
8	Neil Wagner	777	859
9	James Anderson	765	903
10	Josh Hazlewood	752	863

ODI Batting

#	PLAYER	RATING	CAREER BEST
1	Babar Azam	891	891
2	Virat Kohli	831	911
3	Imam-ul-Haq	795	795
4	Rohit Sharma	791	885
5	Quinton de Kock	789	813
6	Jonny Bairstow	775	796
7	Ross Taylor	775	841
8	R. van der Dussen	769	776
9	David Warner	750	880
10	Aaron Finch	745	798

ODI Bowling

#	PLAYER	RATING	CAREER BEST
1	Trent Boult	726	770
2	Chris Woakes	700	711
3	Josh Hazlewood	698	733
4	Matt Henry	683	691
5	Mujeeb Ur Rahman	681	712
6	Jasprit Bumrah	679	841
7	Shaheen Afridi	671	671
8	Mehedi Hasan	661	725
9	Shakib Al Hasan	657	717
10	Rashid Khan	650	806

T20I Batting

#	PLAYER	RATING	CAREER BEST
1	Babar Azam	805	896
2	Aiden Markram	796	796
3	Mohammad Rizwan	794	798
4	Dawid Malan	728	915
5	Devon Conway	703	784
6	Aaron Finch	679	900
7	R. van der Dussen	669	780
8	Martin Guptill	658	793
9	Pathum Nissanka	654	685
10	K.L. Rahul	646	854

T20I Bowling

#	PLAYER	RATING	CAREER BEST
1	Tabraiz Shamsi	784	821
2	Adil Rashid	746	746
3	Josh Hazlewood	737	806
4	Adam Zampa	719	743
5	Rashid Khan	714	816
6	Wanindu Hasaranga	687	797
7	Anrich Nortje	655	655
8	Mujeeb Ur Rahman	654	745
9	Nasum Ahmed	637	637
10	Shaheen Afridi	634	634

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HAIL THE HEROES

The key contributors to a famous victory

Lakshya Sen
(WORLD NO. 9)

Despite a suspected bout of food poisoning, Lakshya won the opener against Germany but wisely rested against Canada. Lacking energy, Lakshya lost to Chinese Taipei's Chou Tien-chen (ranked 4th), Malaysia's Lee Zii Jia (ranked 6th) and Denmark's Viktor Axelsen (ranked 1st). But in the final, Lakshya pulled off a much-needed victory over Tokyo Olympics bronze medallist and fifth-ranked Indonesian Anthony Sinisuka Ginting, that too after dropping the first game 8-21.

Satwiksairaj Rankireddy-Chirag Shetty (WORLD NO. 8)

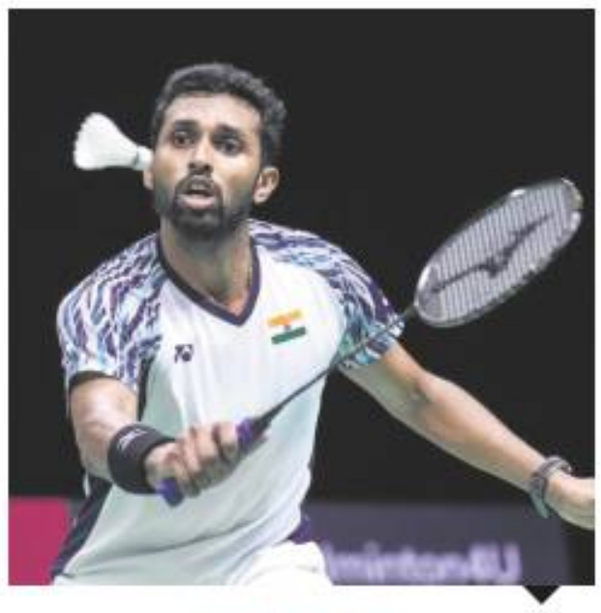
Stretched by the unranked German pair, the Indians had it easy against Canada. What followed was a 'grudge match' where Olympic champions and World No. 3 Lee Yang and Wang Chi-lin avenged the loss suffered in the league stage of the Tokyo Games. In the quarterfinals, the Indians overpowered the 13th-ranked Malaysians.

After that, the Satwik-Shetty pair was destined to win bigger battles. Denmark fielded World No. 9 Kim Astrup and 84th-ranked Mathias Christiansen, and the Indians edged the decider 22-20 by converting a fourth match-point. In the final, World No. 1 Kevin Sanjaya Sukamuljo and World No. 2 Mohammad Ahsan teamed up and held four match-points in the second game. But the gritty Indians turned the match on its head. They won 23-21 and clinched the decider 21-19.

K. Srikanth
(WORLD NO. 11)

Won all six matches. After dropping opening games in the ties against Germany and Canada, he hit form against 15th-ranked Wang Tzu-wei in India's losing cause against Chinese Taipei. In the quarterfinals, Srikanth dismissed 46th-ranked Malaysian Ng Tze Yong and then produced his best against third-ranked Dane Anders Antonsen. In the final, against No. 8 Jonathan Christie, Srikanth saved two game-points in the second game to close out the tie.

A win for the ages: India's fairytale campaign, which included victories over former holders Malaysia and Denmark, culminated in a stunning 3-0 rout of 14-time champion Indonesia in the title clash. • GETTY IMAGES



H.S. Prannoy (WORLD NO. 23)

Entrusted with the third-singles spot, Prannoy warmed up for bigger challenges by beating opponents ranked between 82 and 465 from Germany, Canada, Chinese Taipei and Malaysia. But Prannoy's single biggest victory came against World No. 13 Rasmus Gemke. Having hurt his right ankle during the first game, Prannoy came back strongly to win the next two 21-9, 21-12 to guide India into the final.

Indian badminton must seize the moment after historic Thomas Cup triumph

The celebration is justified, but it's also time to realistically assess the state of the game in the country. It's important to learn from the past, enforce greater accountability across the board, ensure talent is identified correctly and given the best chance to succeed at the highest level

RAKESH RAO

In the last 15 years, India's male shuttlers have played second fiddle to the tone set by former World No. 1 Saina Nehwal, 2019 World champion P.V. Sindhu and the popular duo of G. Jwala and Ashwini Ponnappa. Even as a team, these ladies held the bragging rights after claiming bronze medals in the 2014 and 2016 editions of the Uber Cup.

Undistinguished history

In fact, in the Thomas Cup, India had nothing to be proud of. After all, until the past week, India had not reached the semifinals since 1979.

Even in the Sudirman Cup – the international mixed-team championship – India's best challenges ended in the quarterfinals of the 2011 and 2017 editions. Not a single semifinal appearance in 16 appearances since 1991 speaks for itself.

In short, the proverbial light at the end of the tunnel appeared far and dim. But it took just one dramatic week of badminton to bring the prowess of the Indian men under the spotlight.

Unreal conquest

Significantly, India, in a campaign that culminated with an almost unreal 3-0 conquest of defending champion and 14-time winner Indonesia, also slammed the door on former holders Malaysia and Denmark.

For the record, India followed Chinese Taipei into the quarterfinals after beating group-mates Canada and Germany. The defeat to Chinese Taipei was a dampener but India stunned formidable Malaysia in the last eight. A hard-fought 3-2 victory meant a face-off with Denmark, a team that had three men ranked 1, 3 and 13 in the world. Denmark was clearly the ranking favourite but India's 'winning template' worked once again.

> **The magnitude of an Indian team reaching the final is [akin to] what I'd imagine the team that made the cricket World Cup finals back in 1983**
>
> P. GOPI CHAND, Chief national coach

What was India's winning template?

The team looked to ride on the strengths of three singles players and the combination of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty. It was realistic in its expectations of the two other pairs, 38th-ranked M.R. Arjun-Dhruv Kapila and 46th-ranked Vishnuvardhan Goud-Krishna Prasad.

Head start

In all its victories, India always secured at least one of the first two matches – singles and doubles – before K. Srikanth came good. If the opposition clinched the second doubles to make it 2-2, the team cheered H.S. Prannoy to victory, mostly against far-lower-rated rivals.

Against Denmark, Lakshya ran into World No. 1 and Olympic champion Viktor Axelsen for a third successive loss of the week. Commendably, Satwik-Shetty rallied to down Denmark's makeshift combination in an absolute thriller to draw level. Srikanth upstaged World No. 3 Anders Antonsen in three games. Vishnuvardhan-Prasad lost tamely but Prannoy pulled off a stunning victory over World No. 13 Rasmus Gemke after dropping the first game.

Indonesia was an obvious favourite, having beaten all its Asian rivals – Singapore (4-1), Thailand (4-1), Korea (3-2), a depleted China (3-0) and Japan (3-2), in that order.

Setting the pace

But India shocked Indonesia by the biggest margin, with Lakshya's stunner against World No. 5 and Tokyo Olympics bronze medallist Anthony Sinisuka Ginting setting the pace.

That also meant that Satwik and Shetty, for the first time in the knockouts, were not fighting to level the tie-score. The script of losing the opening game and winning the next two followed as the doubles pair saved four match-points to triumph.

Srikanth, also an underdog, raised the bar to stop World No. 8 Jonathan Christie by snatching the second game. The two game-points Christie squandered made it a hard-to-swallow defeat for Indonesia.

One standout feature of India's historic title-winning campaign was the emergence of the Satwik-Shetty pair. In singles, India always had one or two good players, but the lack of a potent pair was felt in team events. This time, Satwik-Shetty filled the long-standing void.

Raising expectations

This out-of-the-blue triumph was bound to paint an exalted portrait of Indian badminton. Indeed, it did. It rightly raised the expectations of an Asian Games medal. Not surprisingly, a section of the media was quick to describe India as a 'badminton superpower'.

In happier times, it is easy to lose sight of harsh realities. Indeed, this epoch-making triumph needs to be celebrated and inspiration drawn from it. Reward those behind the results and hail our heroes. At the same time, it is wise to remember that one swallow does not make a summer.

If the past is a good pointer to the future, then let us remind ourselves that in the past 15 years, the Indian government, according to its data, has spent an average of around a crore per month – or more than ₹3 lakh a day – on badminton; shooting and hockey are the only other disciplines to receive comparable levels of investment.

But this has produced only a few world-class shuttlers.

Except for Saina and Sindhu, there hasn't been another world-beater in women's singles. Former World No. 1 Srikanth and 2010 World junior semifinalists B. Sai Praneeth and Prannoy continue to be among the top four Indian men. In short, barring the 20-year-old Lakshya, no junior has lived up to potential in the past 12 years.

Future-proofing the sport

In doubles, save for Jwala-Ashwini and Satwik-Shetty, no combination has made an impression. The less said the better about mixed doubles, where Jwala and V. Diju had their moments more than a decade ago.

Learning from the past, it's time to cut out the frills and groom some serious talent in right earnest. For now, Unnati Hooda, 14, looks very promising. Having turned from singles to doubles, Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand, too, can become a crack combination. Priyanshu Rajawat, Kiran George and Mithun Manjunath in men's singles, and the pairs of Arjun-Dhruv and Vishnuvardhan-Prasad need to be nurtured well to sustain India's newly acquired status.

It is time to get real.

GAME THEORY

Bundesliga's season-toppers (attacking end product)

With the 2021-22 season of the German top-flight concluding last week, we take a look at the players who scored the most goals and laid on the most assists. RB Leipzig's Christopher Nkunku makes the top five on both lists, contributing to 1.09 goals every 90 minutes (0.66 goals and 0.43 assists per 90), which illustrates what an excellent season he had. It's no surprise that the No. 1 spot in both categories features a player from the runaway champion, Bayern Munich

MOST GOALS

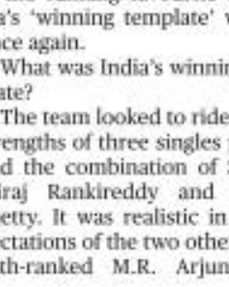
Player	Club	Games	Minutes	Goals	Goals per 90
Robert Lewandowski	Bayern	34	2,952	**35**	1.07
Patrik Schick	Leverkusen	27	2,094	**24**	1.03
Erling Haaland	Dortmund	24	1,915	**22**	1.03
Anthony Modeste	Koln	32	2,620	**20**	0.69
Christopher Nkunku	Leipzig	34	2,735	**20**	0.66
Taiwo Awoniyi	Union Berlin	32	2,200	**15**	0.61
Serge Gnabry	Bayern	34	2,192	**14**	0.57
Moussa Diaby	Leverkusen	32	2,773	**13**	0.42
Jonas Hofmann	Gladbach	26	2,082	**12**	0.52
Andre Silva	Leipzig	33	2,081	**11**	0.48
Jonathan Burkardt	Mainz	34	2,632	**11**	0.38

MOST ASSISTS

Player	Club	Games	Minutes	Assists	Assists per 90
Thomas Muller	Bayern	32	2,578	**18**	0.63
Christopher Nkunku	Leipzig	34	2,735	**13**	0.43
Marco Reus	Dortmund	29	2,514	**12**	0.43
Moussa Diaby	Leverkusen	32	2,773	**12**	0.39
David Raum	Hoffenheim	32	2,762	**11**	0.36
Joshua Kimmich	Bayern	28	2,478	**11**	0.40
Florian Wirtz	Leverkusen	24	1,864	**10**	0.48
Andrej Kramaric	Hoffenheim	32	2,710	**9**	0.30
Christian Gunter	Freiburg	34	3,060	**9**	0.26
Filip Kostic	Eintracht	31	2,525	**9**	0.32

SOURCE: WHOSCORED.COM

Lewandowski


Schick

Muller

Nkunku

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ROMINA AMATO/RED BULL VIA GETTY IMAGES

A long way down

Spain's Carlos Gimeno prepares to launch a handstand dive from the 27.5-metre rock platform during last season's Red Bull Cliff Diving World Series at Downpatrick Head, Ireland, in this photograph.

Cliff diving is not for the faint of heart – or the weak of flesh. The world's oldest extreme sport has fit, brave athletes free-falling from heights of more than 20m, performing complex acrobatics on the way down.

They enter the water feet-first at estimated speeds of up to 85kmph and experience an impact deceleration of 10Gs (a force equivalent to 10 times the force of gravity).

The sport's roots date back to the 1700s in Hawaii: King Kahekili – after whom the champion's trophies in the World Series are named – was a Hawaiian chief who is thought to have first leapt from the cliffs of Kaunolo.

The World Series, which began in 2009, features elite cliff divers competing at some of the world's most picturesque locations. Their dives are scored by judges, based on skill and difficulty level.

The 2022 season, set to get underway next month, will have nine-time men's champion Gary Hunt and five-time women's winner Rhiannan Iffland attempting to defend their crowns.

S BG-BGE

Record SSLC results push up I PU cut-offs

One college is planning to raise the cut-off for science to 96%

JAYANTH R.
BENGALURU

A day after the SSLC exam results were announced, students and parents rushed to Pre-University Colleges (PUC) to enquire about the availability of seats, fee structure and other details on Friday for I PU admissions.

This year, SSLC students achieved 85.63% pass percentage – the highest in 10 years in a full-fledged examination. This has meant that students will have to brace for higher cut-offs marks for admission to I PU colleges.

Students submitting PU admission forms at Mount Carmel College in Bengaluru on May 20. •K. MURALI KUMAR

Last year, Seshadripuram PU College had a cut-off of 89% for science courses and 86% for commerce. On the basis of the Class X results and enquiry by the students and parents, the cut-off percent may be raised to 93% for science and above 90% for commerce subjects, college authorities said.

Woody P. Krishna, General Secretary of Seshadripuram Group of Institutions, told to *The Hindu*, "This year, the pass percentage and top scorers in SSLC exams is high, so automatically the cut-off percentage will also be high. Particularly in our colleges, we will take only government fee for students who got above 95%."

In MES college, Malleswaram, last year, the cut-offs were 94% for science, 90% for commerce subjects. This year, the management is planning to raise the science cut-off to 96% or 97% and commerce subjects to above 93%. MES PU College Principal Natesh said the demand in their college was for science and commerce courses.

KLE PU college and PES PU colleges, on the other hand, have decided to provide seats for all students who got more than 75% on the basis of submitted applications.

Government colleges too reported high demand for applications. On Friday, more than 500 enquires and more than 300 applications were issued by Government PU College for Girls, 13th Cross, Malleswaram. Principal Ravi said, "Last year, we accommodated more than 3,000 students for IPU. This year, it may be around 2,000. We will provide seats for all who applied."

Gati Shakti Unit set up in Bengaluru Division

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Several rail projects in the Bengaluru Division of South Western Railway (SWR) will be fast-tracked under the Prime Minister Gati Shakti initiative. This division is one among the four of Railways where Gati Shakti Units have been set up.

The South Western Railway (SWR) stated that the unit headed by the Chief Project Manager will have the powers to utilise world-class consultants to prepare detailed project reports, availing design assistance from the industry and site tests.

Projects such as Bengaluru-Whitefield quadrupling, redevelopment of Cantonment station and KSR Bengaluru yards and others are likely to receive a push. The Bengaluru Division is the only one in South India selected for the Gati Shakti Unit. On Friday, Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw conducted an inspection of the Chennai-Bengaluru section and also interacted with officials of the SWR from Jolarpettai on fast tracking the projects.

Speeding vehicle kills man

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

A pedestrian was killed and two others injured when they were hit by a speeding car near Banashankari on Outer Ring Road on Friday morning.

Around 7.45 a.m, Suresh, 28, working in a catering business, was on the footpath with his colleague Sachin and a student Shailendra, when a speeding car lost control and came on to the footpath and hit Suresh, throwing him several feet into the air. The car further rammed into a parked car, two bikes and then into an electric pole.

All three were rushed to a private hospital. Over three hours later, Suresh, who had suffered a severe head injury and internal injuries, succumbed. Sachin and Shailendra have suffered severe injuries and are recovering. The driver, Mukhesh, has been arrested and booked under Section 304A of Indian Penal Code for causing death due to negligence.

Naada Namana music festival on May 21, 22

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Shri Rama Kala Vedike will present Naada Namana, a two-day music festival in memory of late Ramachandra Yavagal to mark the birth centenary of Pt. Sheshagiri Hangal on Saturday and Sunday. The highlight is the presentation of Kalashrunga national award to tabla maestro Anindo Chatterjee.

The programme will start at 5.30 p.m. with a Hindustani music concert by Nayan Yavagal. On May 22, there will be two concerts, Bansuri by Druva Yavagal, followed by Hindustani music concert by Dhananjay Hegde from 9.30 a.m. It will be at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Race Course Road.

BMRCL to launch five-day passes

The cost of the pass is ₹600, including ₹50 refundable amount

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

After introducing one and three-day passes, the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Ltd. (BMRCL) has announced the introduction of five-day passes.

In a press release, the BMRCL stated that the new passes will be introduced from May 23 and priced at ₹600, including a refundable deposit of ₹50 towards the smart card.

"The card can be purchased at any metro station. The commuters can travel unlimited number of times for five days from the date of issue," states the release.

Those who purchased the passes can claim ₹50 (refundable deposit) by surrendering the smart card at any metro station's customer care centres, but the smart cards should be in good condition while surrendering and are submitted within the validity time.

In March, the BMRCL had introduced one and three day passes. It costs ₹200 to buy one day pass and ₹400 for three day passes.

The amount includes a refundable deposit amount of ₹50.

APPOINTMENT

Government of India
Search-cum-Selection Committee
Department of Defence Production
Ministry of Defence
Invites applications for the post of
CHAIRMAN & MANAGING DIRECTOR
in
BHARAT ELECTRONICS LIMITED
Last date of receipt of applications in DDP/MoD is
By 15.00 hours on 11th, July, 2022
For details login to website
http://www.ddpmod.gov.in/vacancyandcircular
Advt. No.1/2022

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Energy For Everybody
Every day comes with a whirlwind of activities to complete. From being part of important meetings, working on your hobby, to reading bedtime stories to your little ones, the need to have enough energy to make the most of your time is universal and spans across age groups everywhere. As your kid is growing, playtime after school won't be as fun nor will they be able to do their best in their studies if they're low on energy. So, what can help you and your children feel cheerful and full of zeal throughout the day? A handful of almonds daily.

Go All Out With Almonds
Almonds are a healthy source of energy to help keep you active.* These tasty nuts help ensure you have energy through the day so you can utilize your 24 hours to the fullest. Head for that movie after long working hours, help your little ones with their homework even after finishing all the chores or put those weekend plans that you've been putting off into full swing. Almonds are also a rich source of protein, a nutrient which is not only energy-yielding, but also known to contribute to growth and maintenance of muscle mass.* So, they help you be your best self while staying active.

NATURE'S WAY TO HELP YOU STAY ENERGIZED ALL DAY – ALMONDS NATURALLY.

Boosted Immunity, High Energy
You can't be full of energy when you don't feel ok from within. A good immune system is a must to go through the day like your usual cheerful self. Almonds do a lot for your inner strength so you can take on the day with a smile. They are high in copper that contributes to normal function of the immune system.* They are also a source of zinc that plays an important role in growth, development, and the maintenance of immune function. Zinc deficiency has been associated with an increased susceptibility to infectious diseases, including viral infections.* Hence, a body resilient to infections and diseases will automatically have more energy and confidence to do more through the day.

So go ahead, recharge your energy levels to the fullest the tasty and natural way.

*Please scan the QR Code for more information.

Nutrition information is based on 100g.

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MAY 24TH

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Please note:

Reservations and ticketing will be unavailable from 1800 hrs. (6:00 P.M.) IST on May 24th, 2022 to 1000 hrs. (10:00 A.M.) on May 25th, 2022. Bookings will not be processed during this time.

However, Arrival and Departure of flights will not be affected.

The Flying Returns frequent flyer program will be unavailable from 1800 hrs. (6:00 P.M.) IST on May 24th, 2022 to 1510 hrs. (3:10 P.M.) on May 30th, 2022. During this time redemption and award bookings will not be processed, and accrual of miles from 24th to 28th May, 2022 could be delayed. Miles can still be redeemed with partners, and miles will be credited after the outage.

We thank you for your patience and support, and we look forward to an even stronger partnership!

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http://www.thehindu.com/features/homes-and-gardens

Four pillars of an eco-project

Architecture and construction should be nature friendly. A look by **SATHYA PRAKASH VARANASHI**

GREENSENSE

A common experience faced by architects trying to abide by the rules lies in insisting on adhering to building bye-laws, when the owners ask 'Look, everyone is violating the bye-laws, including the lawmakers - why not us with a small 30x40 site, costing in crores?' Of course, most architects give up and let the owners have their say, often by the fear of losing a project.

Yes, finally we gain a project, but it is at the cost of nature. Paradoxically, then we write and talk about green buildings, greenhouse gas emissions, global warming, climate change and sustainability! This paradox persists because we all come with diversity of aspirations, but do not own eco-responsibilities at our level. What are the potentials and possibilities we can shoulder? Can we have a satisfying experience of working in harmony or will we perpetually disagree with each other, downing the best possible ideas? Who are the four pillars of an ecological project?

Eco-friendly construction materials reduce resource consumption and waste generation. • VAISHALI BHATIA

Owners / promoters: Bengaluru is trending today in larger houses, luxurious apartments and fancy commercial complexes. Of course, affordability matters, but there are many people who can pay for them. Is it possible to promote and own smaller buildings with judiciously built areas? Also the desire to ape the west with architecture generated by the computer software with neither cultural nor climatic fit needs to be relooked at. Prestige, image and social visibility are part of our psyche, yet being contextual is imperative if we have to live in tune with nature.

> Prestige, image and social visibility are part of our psyche, yet being contextual is imperative if we have to live in tune with nature.

Engineers: Construction contributes up to one-third of greenhouse gas emissions, which can be considerably reduced by adopting alternative materials and structures. Civil and structural engineers can play a major role here by not only suggesting, but also by convincing owners and architects towards eco designs. Minimising cement, reducing steel, shifting to designing for compression, using natural materials and lowering structural costs and such others can benefit all.

Designers / Architects: Unknowingly, architects influence promoters and owners towards modern ideas, manufactured materials and maintenance costs. Of course we need them, but what if they are leading to resource consumption and waste generation? Is it possible to achieve functionality, stability, longevity and beauty without the falsehood of novelty and modernity?

Should the identity of architects be more important than sustainability? Many architects and institutions have proved the validity of alternative ideas, so the road ahead should be to reach out such judicious ideas to the society at large.

Builders: The last among this list of four stackholders, builders and contractors are the most important players in the act of sustainability.

Without their coordination and cooperation towards ecologically sensitive projects, nothing much can be achieved. Right from enthusing the owners, agreeing with the engineers, and cooperating with the designers, to coordinating the project and empowering the construction team, they hold the key.

Generally, the private benefits tend to over-rule the public good. To achieve the latter, we need interdisciplinary actions, not mere meetings and seminars with people from diverse backgrounds where we hold on to our different opinions. We need to accept others and cooperate with all, not argue and contradict on personal opinions.

It is time we walk the ecological walk and be able to talk the sustainable walk.

Iconic motifs

CHECKOUT

Sarita Handa heralds the Indian summer with a collection of bedding and cushions that reflect back on the brand's original studio collection, launched in 2012. The pilot collection showcased the intuitive flair for elegance that Handa has now become known for.

The artisanal technique of zardozi was reimagined in threads of ivory, beige, blue and grey, uniquely woven to illustrate iconic French motifs. For Spring/ Summer 2022, new editions of the French Ribbon, Etoile, and Timeless quilted bedspreads carry the same soothing palette and subtle notes of the original pieces. A captivating melange of shaded threads brings a new layer of pastel tones to the embroidery, which weaves delicately across plush, double diamond and vermicelli quilting.

A textured cotton base with the batting of 200 gsm compliments the gradient threading with an eye-catching undertone. Handa's latest collection features a series of solid, graphic-patterned quilted bedding and decorative cushions that accentuate the colours of the embroidered line.

REAL ESTATE

SELLING

FARMHOUSE / LAND / RESORTS

ORGANIC FARM 20 A near Tanjore for sale; Contact 9952092342

COMMERCIAL LAND

CHENGALPET GST Bye Pass Rd Nr. Ayyappan Temple & Opp. Vasanth & Co 62 Cents Comm Land for Sale 9344001825

THE HINDU
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ABOUT 1.75 Grounds (4218 Square Feet) Prime residential/commercial corner plot for sale (clear title) on South Canal Bank Road, Mandaveli. 65 feet frontage (on 60 feet wide road) and 55 feet frontage (on 30 feet wide road). Contact 9962718047

RESIDENTIAL FLAT - OTHERS

3 BHK Flat, 9th Floor, Estancia, Guduvanchery Contact: 7358186186.

RESIDENTIAL HOUSE

CORPORATE GUEST-HOUSE in prime location in Yercaud Fully Furnished in 1.05 Acre. For Sale. Ct: 8925284630

RESIDENTIAL FLAT - RESALE

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2 & 3-BHK	2 & 3-BHK	2-BHK	2 & 3-BHK	3-BHK	2 & 3-BHK
₹ 5,000 / Sq. Ft.	₹ 2,800 / Sq. Ft.	READY TO OCCUPY	₹ 3,100 / Sq. Ft.	READY TO OCCUPY	₹ 3,800 / Sq. Ft.
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CMYK 8G-8GE

Timings
BENGALURU

SATURDAY, MAY. 21
RISE 05:53 SET 18:39
RISE 00:00 SET 10:57

SUNDAY, MAY. 22
RISE 05:53 SET 18:40
RISE 00:10 SET 11:57

MONDAY, MAY. 23
RISE 05:53 SET 18:40
RISE 00:57 SET 12:53

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	31	24
Mysuru	30	19
Bengaluru	27	18

Bengaluru Today
26°C The weather will be comfortable but humid. Night will be pleasant.Chances of rain and thundershower.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
27°C Day will be comfortable and humid. Night will be pleasant. Spell of rain and thundershower is possible.

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THE HINDU
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CM announces setting up of zonal-level task force

Move draws the ire of civic activists championing the cause of local self-govt.

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

Days after heavy rains wreaked havoc in Bengaluru drawing people's ire against the government of Karnataka and former Chief Minister S.M. Krishna appealing to protect 'Brand Bengaluru', Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai announced setting up of zonal-level task force, each of them to be headed by a Minister.

"Each of the eight zones in Bengaluru will have a task force headed by a Minister, and will have MLAs, MPs and MLCs as its members. There will be special commissioners, joint commissioners and all other officials from multiple agencies. This task force will oversee all development work in the zone, and will be the nodal agency in times of crises like floods," Mr. Bommai announced on Friday.

This comes amidst criticism over the Chief Minister retaining Bengaluru Development portfolio, like his predecessor B.S. Yediyurappa, to prevent factional fights within contenders for the post. Mr. Bommai has come under flak for not being able to give enough time for the city, especially after the recent bout of heavy rains. Coming in an election year for both the city's civic body and the State Assembly, the criticism seems to have galvanised the Chief Minister, who visited rain-affected areas for the third consecutive day on Friday and announced the setting up of zonal task force.

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai inspecting rain damage in K.R. Puram on Friday. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The BJP government under Mr. Yediyurappa had made a similar arrangement of appointing a Minister for every zone during the COVID-19 pandemic, but the arrangement was disbanded following intense turf wars among Ministers and lack of coordination.

"The last exercise of appointing a Minister and a senior IAS officer for each zone effectively split up the city administration into eight zones, and civic officials were hard pressed amidst conflicting directions. It only added to the chaos," said a senior civic official who fears a repeat of the same now.

The move of setting up zonal task force has drawn the ire of civic activists championing the cause of the 74th amendment to the Constitution of India that provides for local self-government. "The MLAs have taken over the city and are controlling it with an iron hand, not holding civic body polls on time. Even the new BBMP Act has a provision for an advisory council at the Assembly constituency level headed by the MLA, institutionalising their control over the city," said D.S. Rajashekhar of Bengaluru Praja Vedike.

Minimum temperature dips to 17.9°C

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The city continued to enjoy a cool May with the minimum temperature dipping to 17.9°C on Friday, which was not only 4 degree Celsius below normal, but also one of the lowest for the month in at least 10 years. India Meteorological Department officials said the lowest minimum temperature for the city for May was recorded in 1957, with 16.7°C. The maximum temperature in the city on Friday stood at 27°C, 6 degrees below normal.

CM allows drain widening to manage Sai Layout flooding

It will be taken up at a cost of ₹42 cr.

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, who visited the flooded Sai Layout on Friday, cleared the widening of the storm-water drain at the railway overbridge at a cost of ₹42 crore to clear the bottleneck. Waterlogging in the area hasn't receded for over three days.

"The railway overbridge near Horamavu is one of the causes for waterlogging. We have decided to extend and widen the drain further down from the railway overbridge to enable smooth flow of drain water. The tendering process will be initiated soon and work will be completed by next February. Permission will be sought from ITI authorities for land to extend the drain by another 900 metres. This will ease the flooding problem in 3-4 layouts of Ramamurthynagar. Buildings have come up on drains in some parts here and authorities have been instructed to clear them," said Mr. Bommai.

Gangrape case: Seven awarded life sentence

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

In the case wherein a Bangladeshi woman was trafficked, gang-raped, and the video circulated in May 2021, a city court on Friday sentenced the seven accused to life imprisonment. A woman accused in the case was sentenced to 20 years, while another accused to five years, and two others to nine months.

The video went viral in Bangladesh and Assam, triggering a manhunt. The two accused and the victim were found in the city. With the case being cracked, police also busted a multi-city prostitution ring run by Bangladeshi nationals.

The prime accused, Sobuj and Hridoy Babu, used to lure women from Bangladesh promising them jobs, and later pushed them into flesh trade. The victim had been brought in a similar manner. However, the gang was angry that she had rescued and sent back two girls to Bangladesh. She also owed the gang ₹6 lakh. The gang called her home to settle the financial dispute and gang-raped her.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This notice is issued on behalf of my client **Mr.Krishnanath M.S, S/o. Mr.M.R. Shivashankar** bring to the notice of the general public that the original Sale Deed bearing doc No.4225/1971-72, dated 29.03.1972, Book I, Volume no.177, Page Nos.30-32, registered in the office of the Sub-Registrar Jayanagar, Bangalore is lost.

If any person/s, firm, company, institution or organization has any claim are holding the afore mentioned document, they shall return the same or contact the undersigned in writing within **07 days** from the date of this notice failing which it will be presumed that there are no claims.

Schedule : All the piece and parcel of **Site No.35,** situated at **10th Cross, IInd Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore,** measuring ExW 40 ft & NxS 79 ½ ft and bounded on:

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Rashmi.R, Advocate,
No.07, 1st Floor, 2nd Main, Kalyananagar, Nagarabhavi Main Road, Bangalore-72.

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PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

Notice is hereby given to all users of Railway lines and premises situated on the completed section of the under-noted section of the South Western Railway that the 25000 Volt, 50 Hz., AC overhead traction wires will be energized on or after the date specified against the section. On and from the same date the overhead traction line shall be treated as live at all times and no unauthorized person shall approach or work in the proximity of the said overhead line.

Section	Date
Hosadurga Road - Kadur Jn.	31st May 2022
Nittur-Kardi-Arsikere Jn.	31st August 2022
Chikkajajur Jn.-Tolahunse	31st August 2022
Chikbanavar Jn.-Solur	30th Sep 2022
Bangarepet Jn.-Kolar-Srinivasapura-Chintamani	30th June 2022
Birur-Shivamogga Town	31st August 2022
Hosapete Jn.-Vyasa Colony	30th Sep 2022

INTRODUCTION OF AC 25 kV TRACTION "WARNING TO ROAD USERS"

It is notified for information of the Public that in connection with introduction of 25 kV AC electric traction over the section Hosadurga Road - Kadur Jn., Nittur-Kardi-Arsikere Jn., Chikkajajur Jn.-Tolahunse, Chikbanavar Jn.-Solur, Bangarpet Jn.-Kolar-Srinivasapura-Chintamani, Birur-Shivamogga Town, Hosapete Jn.-Vyasa Colony of the South Western Railway, Height gauges have been erected at all the level crossings with clear maximum height 4.75 m above road level with a view to prevent loads of excessive height from coming into contact or dangerous proximity to live traction wire (Contact wire), which shall be at a height of minimum 5.5 m above the rail level at level crossings.

Public are hereby notified to observe the height specified above for the purpose of loading vehicles and to see that the loads carried in road vehicles do not infringe the height gauges under any circumstances.

The dangers of a load of excessive height are as follows:

I. Danger to the height gauge and consequent obstruction to the road as well as the railway line.
II. Danger to the materials or equipment carried or the vehicle itself.
III. Danger of fire and risk of life due to contact with or dangerous proximity to the conductors.

Chief Project Director
Railway Electrification / Bengaluru

PUBR/TAA/PRO/SWR/2022-23
S.W.Railways SWRRLY SWRRLY

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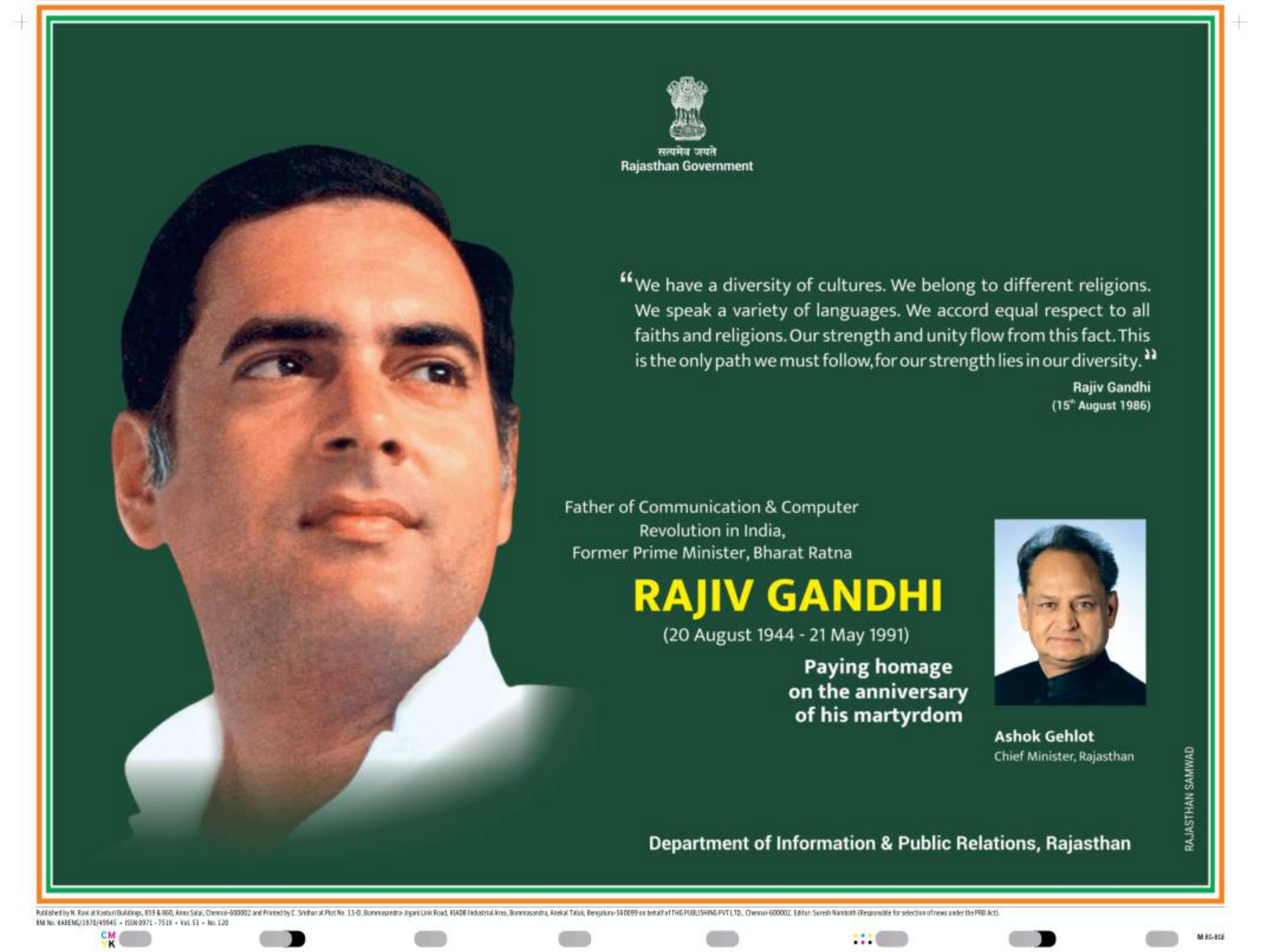
47	JAGADISH B V	KA05MF7969	VERNA	26.04.2016
48	SHEKAR P	KA03MN8024	I20	01.01.2019
49	MR. MALAY KUMAR MOHANTY	KA05ML4629	BEAT	10.04.2015
50	HASANAMBA	KA19AA8109	BEAT WHITE	10.02.2017
51	MR. UMASHANKAR M	KA04MH1358	BEAT	12.08.2014
52	MRS. VEENA .K G	KA06N7897	ENJOY	29.02.2016
53	SHAILAJA M	KA50N3849	I-20 ASTA(D)	27.06.2016

TRIDENT
For any clarification call: 73537 50270 / 90362 83983



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Bommai leaves for Delhi for talks on Council, RS elections

Issues related to Vijayendra's candidature, strategy for third RS seat top the agenda

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

There is heightened curiosity in political circles as Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai left for Delhi on Friday to hold consultations with the party high command on issues related to Rajya Sabha and Legislative Council elections to be held next month.

While elections to seven Council seats are being held on June 3, the biennial elections to four seats of the Rajya Sabha from Karnataka are scheduled for June 10.

Basavaraj Bommai

The BJP circles are particularly curious about whether B.Y. Vijayendra, party State vice-president and son of veteran leader B.S. Yediyurappa, will get the ticket to contest the Legislative Council elections. Though the party State core committee has already recommended his name to the high command, there is still curiosity around the final selection as the central leadership has turned down recommendations on earlier occasions.

A section of the party leaders believe that Mr. Vijayendra's name has been recommended only after there were signals in this regard from the high command. But they admit that it would be the party central leadership that still takes the final call.

If Mr. Vijayendra's name is cleared, it would mark the emergence of new leadership in the party, observed a senior leader in the BJP State unit and he is bound to make it into the Ministry. He is expected to play a crucial role in the preparations for the 2023 Assembly polls along with his father.

Also, any decision to be taken in this regard would be an indication of the BJP's strategy for its political rivals on the forthcoming Assembly elections with respect to retaining its support base of Lingayats.

Role of JD(S)

Apart from the Council elections, the Chief Minister would be consulted on the Rajya Sabha elections. Of the four Rajya Sabha seats for which elections are being held, the BJP would win two seats comfortably, while it is in a position to compete for the third seat also going by it's numerical strength in the Assembly.

The party central leadership is said to be having "an open mind" with respect to roping in the JD(S) for its strategies for the third seat. "Either we may contest the third seat with the support of the JD(S) or we may even support their candidate. But clarity in this regard would emerge only after discussion in this regard with the central leadership," a senior BJP leader said.

But the issue of ministerial expansion does not appear to be on the agenda for now at least as the focus of the party is on the elections to the Council, Rajya Sabha, and the impending BBMP council.

Siddaramaiah, DKS too for national capital today

Party high command to finalise candidates for Council polls

STAFF REPORTER
KALABURAGI

Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Assembly Siddaramaiah and KPCC president D.K. Shivakumar will leave for Delhi on Saturday following a call from the party high command to discuss and finalise the candidates for the elections to the Legislative Council to be held on June 3 and to the Rajya Sabha scheduled for June 10.

Siddaramaiah

Mr. Siddaramaiah told mediapersons at Kalaburagi airport before leaving for Deodurg taluk in Raichur district on Friday that Mr. Shivakumar and himself would meet the Congress high command and discuss about the selection of candidates.

The Congress has 69 MLAs and could easily win one seat in the Council and would decide on the extra votes, he added. Mr. Siddaramaiah demanded that the State government release a White Paper on the funds allocated under the Special Component Plan (SCP) and Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) to take up welfare programmes for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes.

The former Chief Minister challenged the government to an open debate on total funds allocation for SCP-TSP when the Congress was in power, and the funds allocation during the present government.

Allocation

Coming down heavily on BJP leaders for calling him anti-Dalit, Mr. Siddaramaiah said that during the BJP rule (2008-13) merely ₹22,261 crore was allocated to SCP and TSP but during the Congress rule (between 2013-18), about ₹88,395 crore was allocated.

In the 2018-19 State Budget, the Congress government allocated ₹30,000 crore for SCP and TSP as against the total outlay of ₹2,09,181 crore. Now the BJP government had reduced the funds allocation for SCP and TSP to ₹28,324 crore against the total outlay of ₹2,65,720 crore, Mr. Siddaramaiah said.

Reservation to women a must in outsourced services

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The State government has now made it mandatory to provide 33% reservation to women in services and posts that are being outsourced by various government departments and organisations.

A circular in this regard was issued by Chief Secretary P. Ravikumar on Thursday. The circular points out that Karnataka has been following a system of earmarking 30% of government jobs for women since 1996.

He has asked the heads of all the government organisations to include the clause regarding providing 33% reservation to women in the tenders/contracts for outsourcing services.

The circular states that women can handle all responsibilities in an effective manner.

We are ready to hold BBMP council polls anytime: CM

'Ward delimitation exercise is in its final stages'

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Friday said the State government and the Bharatiya Janata Party were ready to hold elections to the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) council anytime and would complete the process in eight weeks.

The previous BBMP council's term ended in September 2020.

The Supreme Court direction has now forced the government to hold the civic polls, which the ruling party and most city MLAs were reportedly not keen on holding before the upcoming Assembly elections. The previous BBMP council's term ended in September 2020 and for almost two years, the city administration was run by bureaucrats.

"The ward delimitation exercise is in its final stages and will be notified very soon. Justice Bhaktavatsalam-led committee carrying out the Supreme Court-mandated three-stage verification for OBC reservation will also hopefully complete the process in eight weeks," Mr. Bommai said. Following the Madhya Pradesh order, we were very worried that the apex court may ask us to hold civic polls without providing OBC reservation, but we are happy that the apex court has allowed us sufficient time to ensure the polls are held with OBC reservation, he added.

Abdul Wajid, former Congress councillor and petitioner before the Supreme Court seeking directions to the State government for early civic polls, said the order had been a victory for democracy. "The government should not wait for eight weeks and must immediately notify the ward delimitation, as it will take a month's time to call for public objections," he said.

Chief Civic Commissioner Tushar Girinath, chairman of the delimitation committee, said the draft was almost ready and would soon be submitted to the government.

A senior BJP office-bearer in the city said none of the city MLAs, cutting across party lines, were interested in holding the civic polls now. "In each ward, both BJP and Congress have two or three aspirants for the ticket. Holding civic polls now will create heartburn among aspirants and may lead to political polarisation ahead of the Assembly polls. Most MLAs were keen to push the BBMP council polls to after the Assembly polls so that all aspirants would work for them in the elections in the hope of cornering the party ticket for the civic polls," the leader said.

"Moreover, MLAs are now having a dream run controlling the city and its vast resources, which they are not ready to give up. But the Supreme Court order will now force them to hold the civic polls," said a former Congress councillor.

The party most upbeat about the civic polls seems to be the Aam Admi Party. "The ruling BJP had been employing various tactics to delay the elections, but will now have to hold the polls as per the apex court directions. We are confident that we will win the civic polls," said Pruthvi Reddy, State convener, AAP.

₹28,234-crore plan cleared under SCSP-TSP

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The State government on Friday cleared a ₹28,234-crore action plan for various programmes of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes under the Karnataka Scheduled Castes Sub-Allocation & Tribal Sub Allocation (Planning, Allocation and Utilisation of Financial Resources) Act for the present financial year.

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai told mediapersons in Bengaluru that the SC/ST Development Council meeting that was held on Friday cleared the action plan that had been backed by the State Budget.

Earlier, addressing the SC/ST Development Council meeting, the Chief Minister set a deadline of three months for the authorities concerned to utilise ₹1,600 crore which is deposited in the bank accounts of various boards and corporations coming under the Social Welfare Department (barring Ganga Kalyana Scheme). He said unspent money would be re-allocated for different programmes for this year. He told the officials to ensure that funds earmarked under the SCSP-TSP should be used only for the welfare of SCs and STs.

The meeting also reviewed the situation with respect to unspent money from the previous year for various programmes under this plan, he said.

The Chief Minister said a sum of ₹20 crore had been earmarked for the development of places which Dr. B.R. Ambedkar had visited in Karnataka. Also, it had been decided to provide free bus passes to all the SC/ST students.

Replying to a query, he said an inquiry would be conducted into allegations that there was corruption in the implementation of Ganga Kalyana Scheme.

MINORITY WELFARE DEPARTMENT
DIRECTORATE OF MINORITIES
No.16c, Moulana Abul Kalam Azad Bhavan, Miller Tank Bed Area, Vasanth Nagara, Bengaluru-560052 Ph: 080-22864212/Fax: 080-22863618 e-Mail: directorgokdom@gmail.com
Web: https://dom.karnataka.gov.in Helpline No.: 8277799990 (24/7)
No.: DoM/M.D.R.College/A.A./CR-45/2022-23 Date: 21.05.2022

Notification

Applications invited for Free Admission to Minorities Morarji Desai Girls Residential Pre-University Colleges working under the Minority Welfare Department.

Date for submission of Application for First P.U.C. for the year 2022-23: from 20.05.2022 to 31.05.2022 up to 5.30 PM.

For the benefit of students of Minority Communities, 21 PU Girls English Medium Residential Colleges are working. Students belonging to Minority Communities (Muslim, Christian, Jain, Buddhist, Parsi,Sikh and SC/ST/OBC) can submit applications for admission to First PUC.

Mode of submitting Application

1. Interested Students can submit Application free online through Principal of their nearest Minorities Morarji Desai Residential Colleges along with all documents.

Eligibility

1. Students should belong to Minority Communities, 75% reservation for admission of Muslim, Christian, Jain, Buddhist, Parsi and Sikh communities.
2. Students who have studied in 10th standard and passed from any Minorities Residential School/Government/Government Approved Schools.
3. Should be a domicile of Karnataka State.
4. Annual Family Income should not exceed Rs. 2.50 lakhs.
5. 3% Reservation for Specially Abled.
6. 25% Reservation for Admission of SC, ST and other Backward Classes.
7. Selection will be made based on Merit and Roaster Methods.

Facilities provided in Residential Colleges

1. Free Education, Food, Uniform, Hygiene Kit, Stationery, Text Books and other facilities are provided free.
2. To be helpful for professional education like technical and medical science subjects are provided in combination of PCMB, PCMC and commerce subjects in HEBA and classes will be conducted in English medium.
3. Special Classes will be given free for entrance exams to professional courses.
4. Only Girls will be given admission in Residential College.

Details of Minorities Morarji Desai Girls Residential Colleges and Principals are as below.

Sl. No.	District	Name of Principal & Phone No.	Address of College	Available Combinations	Sanction Strength
01	Belagavi	Sri Vittobha Honakande Ph: 9538940305	Minorities Morarji Desai Girls Pre-university College, Chikkodi, (Hirekodi)-591247	PCMB / HEBA	240
02	Bagalkot	Sri Mohammed Nayeemgaraga Ph: 8951669687	Minorities Morarji Desai Girls Pre-university College, Navanagara, Bagalakote	PCMB / HEBA	240
03	Vijayapura	Sri Sanganna Alagura Ph: 9591612073	Minorities Morarji Desai Girls Pre-university College, Arakeri	PCMB / HEBA	200
04	Haveri	Sri Mahesha Gaste Ph: 7676711656	Minorities Morarji Desai Girls Pre-university College, Karjagi	PCMB / HEBA	240
05	Haveri	Ku. Girijavva Nayka Ph: 8496098631	Minorities Morarji Desai Girls Pre-university College, Akki Aaluru	PCMB / HEBA	240
06	Bidar	Sri Santhoshkumar Ph: 9448579310	Minorities Morarji Desai Girls Pre-university College, Kapalapura	PCMB / PCMC	160
07	Kalaburagi	Smt Bhagyashree Kumbara Ph: 8904564776	Minorities Morarji Desai Girls Pre-university College, Savalagi, Kalaburagi-585103	PCMB / PCMC	160
08	Kalaburagi	Sri Ananda Ph: 9972564776	Minorities Morarji Desai Girls Pre-university College, Madina Colony, Kalaburagi Dandothi	PCMB / HEBA	240
09	Raichur	Sri. Somanatha D Ph: 6363962274	Minorities Morarji Desai Girls Pre-university College, Chandrabanda, Raichur	PCMB / HEBA	240
10	Ballari	Sri. Ravi U.M Ph: 8971171672	Minorities Morarji Desai Girls Pre-university College, Ballari	PCMB / HEBA	240
11	Koppal	Sri Vijaykumara gowda Ph: 9986470630	Minorities Morarji Desai Girls Pre-university College, Koppala	PCMB / PCMC	160
12	Koppal	Sri Krishnamurthy Ph: 8105457095	Minorities Morarji Desai Girls Pre-university College, Kukanura	PCMB / HEBA	240
13	Koppal	Sri Hanumesha Ph: 9880958503	Minorities Morarji Desai Girls Pre-university College, Hirebenakal	PCMB / HEBA	240
14	Chitradurga	Sri. Lingaraju B Ph: 8748955446	Minorities Morarji Desai Girls Pre-university College, Medehalli, Chitradurga	PCMB / HEBA	240
15	Tumakuru	Kumari. Geetha A.S Ph: 9481819093	Minorities Morarji Desai Girls Pre-university College, Bhuvanahalli, Shira	PCMB / HEBA	240
16	Ramanagara	Sri. Inamulla Ph: 8880005415	Minorities Morarji Desai Girls Pre-university College, Ramanagara	PCMB / PCMC	160
17	Chikkaballapura	Sri. Nagaiah Ph: 7349008289	Minorities Morarji Desai Girls Pre-university College, Mastenahalli, Kaivara	PCMB / HEBA	200
18	Dakshina Kannada	Sri. Muttura Nagaprasadreddy (I/C) Ph: 8970707858	Minorities Morarji Desai Girls Pre-university College, Deralakatte, Mangaluru	PCMB / PCMC	160
19	Hassan	Smt. Sunitha H.S Ph: 7353600407	Minorities Morarji Desai Girls Pre-university College, Channarayapattana	PCMB / HEBA	240
20	Mysuru	Sri Prakash B.M. Ph: 9964305503	Minorities Morarji Desai Girls Pre-university College, Doddakanya	PCMB / HEBA	240
21	Shivamogga	Kumari Vijayalakshmi Ph: 8951364026	Minorities Morarji Desai Girls Pre-university College, Melina Hanasawadi, Shivamogga	PCMB / HEBA	240

For further information contact the above mentioned Principals or Department helpline no. 8277799990 (24/7) or Department website https://dom.karnataka.gov.in
Sd/- Director, Directorate of Minorities, Bengaluru.

Kannada in Canadian Parliament

Chandrakanth Arya, MP, spoke in the language in the House

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

Canadian parliamentarian Chandrakanth Arya, hailing from Sira in Tumakuru district, spoke in the country's parliament in Kannada and posted a video on Twitter on Friday, earning praise in his home State.

Mr. Arya was elected as an MP for Nepean, Ontario, in 2015 and was re-elected in 2019. He made a brief statement in Kannada saying him speaking in Kannada would make the people of Karnataka happy and proud. He said Canadian Kannadigas had celebrated Kannada Rajyotsava in Parliament in 2018 and now he was speaking in Kannada.

He signed off with the lines of a Kuvempu poem: "Elladaru Iru, Enthadaru Iru...Endendigu Nee Kannadavagiru" (Wherever you are, However you are....always be Kannadiga).

Posting the video of his speech on Twitter, Mr. Arya said, "...This beautiful language has a long history and is spoken by about 50 million people. This is the first time Kannada is spoken in any parliament in the world outside of India".

Video grab of a clip that went viral shows Chandra Arya speaking in Kannada in Canadian Parliament.

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai and KPCC president D.K. Shivakumar tweeted their appreciation for the parliamentarian's speech. "However tall you grow, you should remember your roots. Chandra Arya has followed this in the true spirit," Mr. Bommai tweeted. "It makes me happy to see our great Kannada language spoken in the Canadian parliament...Kannadigas across the world must fly high the flag of our mother tongue," Mr. Shivakumar tweeted.

Mr. Arya, son of a commercial tax officer from Dwaralu village in Sira taluk, has an engineering degree from Bangalore University and a master's in business administration from Dharwad University. He worked in Qatar and later shifted to Canada, where he was elected to the Canadian Parliament in 2015 from the Liberal Party.

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I, Harshitha Elavarthi Chandrashekar W/o Tejaswi Mahadev R/o #4019, 6th Cross, 7th Block West Jayanagar, Bangalore - 560070 have changed my name to Harshita Elavarthi Chandrashekar for all purposes.

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IN BRIEF

Finally, Thrissur Pooram fireworks go off

THRISSUR

Ending nine days of uncertainty, the Thrissur Pooram fireworks were displayed on Friday afternoon. The fireworks, initially scheduled for the early morning of May 11, were postponed thrice due to rain. Though the *vedikkettu* lacked the confluence of colours of the customary night show, people enjoyed it.

TTD to release darshan tickets from Saturday

TIRUMALA

The TTD has resolved to release the online quota of ₹300 Special Entry Darshan (SED) tickets for the months of July and August from 9 a.m. on Saturday (May 21). Around 20,000 to 25,000 tickets will be made available to the devotees on an average every day.

Farmer held for death of KAP havildars

PALAKKAD

The police arrested a farmer, Suresh in connection with the death of two havildars of the Kerala Armed Police (KAP). The policemen were electrocuted by a live cable illegally set up by Suresh to trap wild boars at his land.

Allegations of police unbelievable: SC panel

'Accused could not have opened fire and run away simultaneously'

STAFF REPORTER
HYDERABAD

The Supreme Court-appointed Justice Sirpurkar Commission to inquire into the alleged encounter killing of four accused in the gangrape and murder case of veterinary doctor on December 6, 2019, in their 'sealed cover' report submitted to the apex court stated that the allegations that accused snatched pistols from policemen and fired at them was 'artificial' and 'unbelievable'.

It said there was no material evidence from the police to indicate that the deceased suspects - Mohammed Arif and Ch. Chennakeshavulu - who allegedly snatched two pistols from police were familiar with the operation of firearms. "On the directions of the commission, former ACP of Shadnagar division brought a pistol to the commission premises during the hearing and demonstrated the operation of the same. The process is complicated enough that a person unfamiliar with the use of firearms would not be able to operate the pistol easily and especially the operation of firearms would not be possible in the circumstances in which the deceased allegedly used them," the report read.

A file photo of the forensic experts collecting material at the site of the alleged encounter in Hyderabad.

They also mentioned the specifications and operations of the pistols, the position of the safety switch, and even a ballistics expert's statement which stated 'it is not possible for an untrained person to identify the safety switch and thereafter fire the weapon.' It is also not conceivable that within a short span of time, as alleged by the police, the deceased suspects snatched the weapons, cocked the pistol and used it to fire, it read.

"For all these reasons, it has to be held that the deceased suspects could not have fired those pistols and in fact did not fire the pistols."

Moreover, once they escaped and started running, it would be highly improbable that they would fire at the police party while running. "They would either run away or stwart and fire at the police party," the report read.

It further stated that a version was sought to be projected that Jollu Naveen and Jollu Shiva might have died from the indiscriminate firing by Arif and Chennakeshavulu. "This version is made untenable. The forensic reports show that the injuries were caused by 'high-velocity copper jacketed rounds' and the evidence of ballistics expert show that the bullets of 9MM pistols allegedly snatched by the deceased suspects are not 'high-velocity bullets whereas the bullets of AK-47 and two SLRs wielded by the police party are 'high-velocity' bullets," the committee members said in their 383-page report.

'Techie who threatened employer using extra-legal means cannot be reinstated'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has said that it cannot order the reinstatement of a software engineer who had threatened his employer by adopting extra-legal methods, claiming that he had arms and weapons in his possession besides having the support of persons with legal and political backing.

However, the court ordered the firm to pay ₹10 lakh to the employee as compensation for terminating him from service without holding a proper disciplinary inquiry.

Justice K.S. Mudagal passed the order while setting aside the Labour Court's February 2021 order of directing the company to reinstate the techie with back wages. The techie was employed by a U.S.-based software company in February 2015 for an annual pay package of ₹24.75 lakh and was posted in its Bengaluru office after training him in the USA. Later, he was asked to undergo a performance improvement programme as his performance was not satisfactory.

Following this, he had sent emails to the company and employees in which he had threatened that he has a gun, eight bombs, and two swords in his possession. He had also claimed in the emails that he is capable of destructive activities against the management and employees as his father, being an advocate, knew people with criminal backgrounds and his uncle was an MLA. Subsequently, the company in January 2016 lodged a complaint with the city police alleging that the techie had resorted to violence with other employees.

Though techie had filed a counter-complaint with the police against the HR managers, the High Court had quashed the same. In 2018, the techie moved the Labour Court, which in February 2021 ordered his reinstatement. Though the High Court found that the techie was terminated from the job without holding a proper inquiry, in violation of principles of natural justice, it said that his conduct does not deserve benefit of reinstatement.

The techie had lost trust and confidence due to his conduct, the court said, while pointing out that the threatening mails sent by him were sufficient to prove that "the management's perception of loss of mutual confidence was not subjective".

WEATHER WATCH

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE & AIR QUALITY IN SELECT METROS YESTERDAY

TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Saturday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh, sub-Himalayan West Bengal, Karnataka, Kerala, Mahe and Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Thunderstorm with lightning likely at isolated places over Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal and Lakshadweep

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	59	30.5	21.8
Ahmedabad	–	43.6	29.0
Aizawl	39	28.5	17.5
Allahabad	–	46.3	28.4
Bengaluru	4.9	27.0	17.9
Bhopal	–	43.0	28.4
Bhubaneswar	–	37.6	26.4
Chandigarh	–	44.5	28.9
Chennai	–	37.0	28.0
Coimbatore	0.8	31.8	23.0
Dehradun	–	39.5	22.2
Gangtok	0.3	21.1	15.0
Goa	26	25.2	23.2
Guwahati	39	29.5	21.5
Hubballi	–	22.0	20.0
Hyderabad	–	36.2	25.6
Imphal	5	28.6	20.1
Jaipur	–	44.6	31.8
Kochi	6	30.4	24.4
Kohima	1	23.8	15.0
Kolkata	0.3	36.6	27.5
Kozhikode	4	28.8	24.0
Kurnool	33	28.3	23.8
Lucknow	–	40.4	29.0
Madurai	–	38.2	24.6
Mangaluru	46.2	25.4	20.5
Mumbai	–	33.4	29.0
Mysuru	–	30.2	20.0
New Delhi	–	44.4	28.2
Patna	–	37.0	25.2
Port Blair	33	29.8	22.9
Puducherry	–	36.4	24.8
Pune	0.2	34.2	24.1
Raipur	–	41.0	27.5
Ranchi	3	40.4	26.2
Shillong	25	23.5	13.9
Shimla	–	34.1	22.5
Srinagar	0.1	18.2	13.2
Thiruvananthapuram	22	30.6	23.1
Tiruchi	–	37.5	25.5
Vijayawada	–	37.8	28.0
Visakhapatnam	–	34.0	29.0

(*Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius*)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing — **Yesterday**

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	11	–	58	226	152	Poor
Bengaluru	16	42	45	84	90	Good
Chennai	3	25	59	48	94	Good
Delhi	23	157	86	265	304	Poor
Hyderabad	4	17	32	67	68	Good
Kolkata	5	90	16	31	48	Good
Lucknow	7	99	32	300	253	Poor
Mumbai	3	18	43	327	151	Poor
Pune	–	31	55	223	146	Poor
Visakhapatnam	17	24	12	39	71	Good

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Bhiwadi, Rajasthan recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 361 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Gummidipoondi, Tamil Nadu recorded a healthy AQI score of 23

Air Quality Code: Poor, Moderate, Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Probe by senior IAS officer into charges against ex-DC

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The Karnataka government in an order dated May 17 asked senior IAS officer Jayaram, who is the Chairperson of BWSSB, to complete the probe into the charges levelled against the former Mysuru Deputy Commissioner Rohini Sindhuri and submit a report within 30 days.

The allegations were made by JD(S) MLA S.R. Mahesh, who represents K.R. Nagar Assembly constituency in Mysuru. Referring to Ms. Sindhuri's approval of the purchase of 14.71 lakh cloth bags from the Karnataka State Handloom Development Corporation for distribution among local bodies of Mysuru district as part of a plastic-free campaign, Mr. Mahesh alleged that the bags were overpriced, and claimed that no consent was taken from elected representatives of the local bodies.

ವಿಜಯನಗರ ಶ್ರೀ ಕೃಷ್ಣದೇವರಾಯ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ಜ್ಞಾನಸಾಗರ ಆವರಣ, ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ-583105
ಕುಲಸಚಿವರು ದೂ.ಸಂ.08392-242093 Web:www.vskub.ac.in

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:ವಿ.ಶ್ರೀ.ಕೃ.ವಿ.ವಿ.ಬ/ಕಾ.ಅ.ವಿಭಾಗ/ಸಂಯೋಜನೆ/ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ/2022-23/15 ದಿನಾಂಕ:16.05.2022

ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ವಿಷಯ: 2022-2023ನೇ ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಸಂಯೋಜನಾ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸುವ ಕುರಿತು.
ಉಲ್ಲೇಖ: 01. ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಆದೇಶ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:ಇಡಿ 34 ಇಪಿಎ2020 (ಭಾಗ-2) ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ದಿನಾಂಕ:26.04.2022
02. ಮಾನ್ಯ ಕುಲಪತಿಗಳ ಅನುಮೋದನೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ:16.05.2022

ವಿಜಯನಗರ ಶ್ರೀ ಕೃಷ್ಣದೇವರಾಯ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯದ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯ ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ, ವಿಜಯನಗರ ಮತ್ತು ಕೊಪ್ಪಳ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ 2022-23ನೇ ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕ ಸಾಲಿನಿಂದ ಕಲಾ, ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ, ವಾಣಿಜ್ಯ, ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಮತ್ತು ದೈಹಿಕ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಹಾಗೂ ಇನ್ನಿತರ ಸಾಂಪ್ರದಾಯಿಕ ವಿಷಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಹೊಸ ಪದವಿ ಮಹಾವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯಗಳನ್ನು ಪ್ರಾರಂಭಿಸಲು ಇಚ್ಛಿಸುವ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ನಿಯಮಾವಳಿಯಂತೆ ನೋಂದಾಯಿಸಲ್ಪಟ್ಟ ಸಂಘ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು/ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಟ್ರಸ್ಟ್‌ಗಳಿಂದ ಹೊಸ ಸಂಯೋಜನಾ ಅರ್ಜಿಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಪ್ರಸ್ತುತ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯದಿಂದ ಸಂಯೋಜನೆ ಹೊಂದಿರುವ ಮಹಾವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯಗಳಿಂದ ಸ್ನಾತಕ/ ಸ್ನಾತಕೋತ್ತರ ಕೋರ್ಸ್‌ಗಳಿಗೆ ಮುಂದುವರಿಕೆ/ ವಿಸ್ತರಣೆ/ ಹೊಸ ಕೋರ್ಸ್/ ಹೊಸ ವಿಷಯ/ ಪ್ರವೇಶ ಮಿತಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚಳ/ ಶಾಶ್ವತ ಸಂಯೋಜನೆ/ ಶಾಶ್ವತ ಸಂಯೋಜನೆ ನವೀಕರಣ/ ಮಹಾವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯಗಳ ಹೆಸರು ಬದಲಾವಣೆ/ಮಹಾವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ಸ್ಥಳಾಂತರ/ಆಡಳಿತ ಮಂಡಳಿ ಬದಲಾವಣೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಇತ್ಯಾದಿಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳೊಂದಿಗೆ ನಿಗದಿತ ಸಂಯೋಜನಾ ಶುಲ್ಕವನ್ನು ಪಾವತಿಸಿ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಸಂಯೋಜನೆಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ಜಾಲತಾಣ (website) ವಿಳಾಸ **https://www.onlineaffiliation.karnataka.gov.in/Affiliation22_23/** ರ ಮೂಲಕ ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್ ಅರ್ಜಿಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಸಂಯೋಜನಾ ಶುಲ್ಕಗಳ ವಿವರ ಹಾಗೂ ಸಂಯೋಜನೆಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ಇನ್ನಿತರ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯದ ಜಾಲತಾಣ ವಿಳಾಸ (website: www.vskub.ac.in) ದಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಡಬಹುದು. ಸಂಯೋಜನಾ ಶುಲ್ಕವನ್ನು ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯದ ಜಾಲತಾಣದಲ್ಲಿ online payment gateway ಮೂಲಕ ಪಾವತಿಸಬೇಕು.

ಮುಂದುವರೆದು, ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಿದ ಅರ್ಜಿಯ ಮುದ್ರಿತ ಪ್ರತಿ ಪಡೆದು ಶುಲ್ಕ ಭರಿಸಿದ್ದರ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ರಸೀದಿ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಪೂರ್ಣ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳೆಲ್ಲವುಗಳನ್ನು ಬೈಂಡಿಂಗ್/ಸ್ಪೈರಲ್ ಬೈಂಡಿಂಗ್ ಮಾಡಿಸಿ ಎರಡು ಪ್ರತಿಗಳನ್ನು **ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು, ಕಾಲೇಜು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಮಂಡಳಿ**, ವಿಜಯನಗರ ಶ್ರೀ ಕೃಷ್ಣದೇವರಾಯ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಜ್ಞಾನಸಾಗರ ಆವರಣ, ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ-583105 ಇವರಿಗೆ ಈ ಕೆಳಗೆ ಸೂಚಿಸಿರುವ ದಿನಾಂಕದೊಳಗೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ತಿಳಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

1.	ದಂಡ ರಹಿತ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ	06.06.2022
2.	ರೂ.20,000/-ದಂಡ ಶುಲ್ಕದೊಡನೆ	07.06.2022 ರಿಂದ 11.06.2022
3.	ರೂ.40,000/- ದಂಡ ಶುಲ್ಕದೊಡನೆ	13.06.2022 ರಿಂದ 18.06.2022

ದಿನಾಂಕ: 18.06.2022 ರ ನಂತರ ಬಂದ ಸಂಯೋಜನಾ ಅರ್ಜಿಗಳನ್ನು ತಿರಸ್ಕರಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು ಹಾಗೂ ಯಾವುದೇ ಕಾರಣಕ್ಕೂ ಸಂಯೋಜನಾ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಕೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕವನ್ನು ವಿಸ್ತರಿಸಲು ಅವಕಾಶವಿರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.

ಸಹಿ/-ಕುಲಸಚಿವರು, ವಿಜಯನಗರ ಶ್ರೀ ಕೃಷ್ಣದೇವರಾಯ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ.

ಡಿಐಪಿಆರ್/ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ/64/ಎಂಸಿಎ/2022-23

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Tender Notice No. APyard_Remodelling Dated: 17.05.2022

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-tenders for the following works:

Item of Work	Approx. Cost
Ashokapuram - Connecting Rd. 4, 5 to main line at Chamarajanagar end.	Rs. 7,15,12,484.5/-

Last date for submission of bids: **Up to 15:00 hrs. of 10.06.2022**

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Deputy Chief Signal and Telecom Engineer Project / Mysuru

PUB/88/AAV/PRB/SWR/2022-23

S.W.Railways SWRRLY SWRRLY

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Tender Notice No. Bat_Chrg_SBC Dated: 18.05.2022

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-tenders for the following works:

Item of Work	Approx. Cost
Replacement of over aged Track circuits and IPS batteries over Bengaluru Division (Yelahanka, Hindupur, Bangarepet, Baiyyappanahalli, KSR Bengaluru, Yesvantpur, Mandya and Kuppam sections).	Rs. 13,21,089.40/-

Last date for submission of bids: **Up to 15:00 hrs. of 10.06.2022**

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Divisional Signal and Telecom Engineer Bengaluru

PUB/89/AAV/PRB/SWR/2022-23

S.W.Railways SWRRLY SWRRLY

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Health Officer, RRN, Ideal Homes Township, Rajarajeshwarinagara, Bengaluru - 560 098.

No: HO(RRN)/PR-01-06/2022-23 Date: 20.05.2022

CORRIGENDUM

The News paper notification dated on **28.04.2022** with Ref No.HO(RRN)/PR-01-06/2022-23 is revised based on the orders of Chief Health Officer (Public Health) with Ref No: CHO(PH)/PR/62/2022-23, Date: 27.04.2022. Bidders to refer e-procurement portal http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in necessary clarification.

Changes in respect to above order

1. The last date of receipt a completed tender has been extended to **31.05.2022** upto **4:00** pm.
2. Date & Time of opening the technical bids has been extended to **01.06.2022** at **11:00** am.

Sd/- Health Officer (R R Nagara)

STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID-19, NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE.
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

PUBLIC NOTICE

GENERAL PUBLIC ARE HEREBY INFORMED THAT, my client **SRI.AMRUTH.B.S**, alias **Amruth.S.Kumar**, S/o.Late.B.S.Shivakumar has lost the Original registered **Partition Deed**, dated: **05.05.2012** with respect to the Schedule Property hereunder, originally acquired by B.S.Shivakumar (Deceased) and others with their respective share of Schedule Properties, Regd. as Document No.**CMP-1-00562-2012-13**, Book-I, stored in C.D. No.CMPD47, registered at the office of Sub-Registrar Chamarajpet, Bangalore, in transit on 27-04-2022. And that, my client has lodged the lost complaint before the concerned Police Station on 27-04-2022, having Serial No.**210763** and Lost Report No.**0210763/2022** and so far he has not received the same from the public. That, my client requests the public if anybody has traced the said document, please handover the same to him or to the undersigned office within 7 days from the date of publication hereof.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the **Ground Floor** premises of the Residential Property bearing Municipal No.**76**, having PID No.**46-5-76**, situated at 3rd Main Road, Chamarajpet, Bangalore, measuring about **2250 Square Feet**, with all the right, title and with 50% undivided share or 1620 Square Feet or 15 Feet x 108 Feet of right, title, interest in all that piece and parcel of the land in the immovable residential property bearing amalgamated BBMP Khata No.76, PID No.46-5-76, totally measuring East to West: **30 feet** and North to South **108 feet** and bounded as follows:- On the **East** By : Property No.75 belonging to Sri.Nagappa, **West** By : 5 Feet Common Passage and Thereafter Property No.77 belonging to Sri.Lingappa, **North** By : 3rd Main Road, **South** By: Conservancy Lane.

Sd/- **GANESH.B.R**, Advocate,
GANESH LAW ASSOCIATES, *ADVOCATE & SOLICITORS*
No.217, 1st Floor, SLN Complex, 4th Main, 3rd Cross, Chamarajpet,
Bangalore-560 018. **Ph: 080-79625681; Mob: +91 78926 08987, +91 9845604977.**

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE
Bangalore - 560012.

Advertisement No. R(HR)Temp-06(CPDM)/2022

Applications are invited for the position of **Facility Manager** for Additive Manufacturing/3D Printing in the Common Engineering Facility Centre (CEFC) at the Institute.
For further details, visit our web site at **https://www.iisc.ac.in/positions-open/**
Last Date of Application: **10.06.2022.**

Date: 20.05.2022 **Sd/-, REGISTRAR**

KARNATAKA STATE ELECTRONICS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD., KEONICS
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprises)
2nd Floor, TTMC 'A' Block, BMTC Complex, Shanthinagar, K.H. Road, Bengaluru-560027 Fax: 080-22232652, 080-22225645

No.: KSEDC/ITS/EOI-PQBA/001/2022-23 Date: 20-05-2022

EOI FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION OF BUSINESS ASSOCIATES FOR SUPPLIES & SERVICES - SINGLE COVER SYSTEM - NOTIFICATION (Through e-Procurement Portal Only)

Expression of Interest is invited for Pre-Qualification of Business Associates from **"Proprietary, partnership, public / private limited companies for providing various IT services / supplies"**. Last date for submission of EoI **27.05.2022, 02.00 PM**. For further details login: **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** or contact helpdesk No. 080-25501216/25501227. Contact person is Shri Shivanand, Manager-Technical, Ph - 080-22225645 and mobile - 9731560743

Sd/-
Director (Operations)

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED

CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521

TENDER NOTIFICATION

(Through e-Procurement Portal only)

KPTCL, invites bids for the following works coming under Jurisdiction of BMAZ South Circle on Total Turn Key Basis on Percentage Tender Basis.

No. SEE/Tr(M)/BMAZ(S)/EE(O)/AEE-4/F-122(24)/22-23/1507-08 Date: 19.05.2022

1) Bid Enquiry No.: KPTCL/SEE/Tr(M)/BMAZ(S)/EE(O)/AEE-4/22-23/EPR-21/CALL-01, Dated: 19.05.2022 For Dismantling, transportation (to & fro), repair of sick power transformer, testing, assembling, erection and commissioning of repaired sick power transformer of rating 31.5MVA, 66/11kV, Kirloskar Make, Sl.No.102x007/01 year of manufacture 2011 lying at 66/11kV CESSNA Substation.

No. SEE/Tr(M)/BMAZ(S)/EE(O)/AEE-4/F-122(25)/22-23/1512-13 Date: 19.05.2022

2) Bid Enquiry No.: KPTCL/SEE/Tr(M)/BMAZ(S)/EE(O)/AEE-4/22-23/EPR-22/CALL-01, Dated: 19.05.2022 For Dismantling, transportation (to & fro), repair of sick power transformer, testing, assembling, erection and commissioning of repaired sick power transformer of rating 20MVA, 66/11kV, BBL Make, Sl.No.4767/4 year of manufacture 2003 lying at 66/11kV Padmanabhanagar Substation.

No. SEE/Tr(M)/BMAZ(S)/EE(O)/AEE-4/F-122(26)/22-23/1517-18 Date: 19.05.2022

3) Bid Enquiry No.: KPTCL/SEE/Tr(M)/BMAZ(S)/EE(O)/AEE-4/22-23/EPR-23/CALL-01, Dated: 19.05.2022 For Dismantling, transportation (to & fro), repair of sick power transformer, testing, assembling, erection and commissioning of repaired sick power transformer of rating 20MVA, 66/11kV, Volt Amp Make, Sl.No.JN8012/7 year of manufacture 2001 lying at 220/66/11kV Khodays R/s.

The bids will be received through **'e-Procurement Mode' only.** The detailed notification regarding the subject tenders can be got by logging on to **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** with hyperlink **'e-Procurement-KPTCL'** or to **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **21.05.2022.** Further details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- **Superintending Engineer, Elecl.,**
Transmission (Maintenance), BMAZ, South Circle, KPTCL,
A.R. Circle, Bangalore - 560 009, Telefax: 22386686-85

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE
Bangalore - 560012.

To,
Mr. S. Moorthy, Junior Scientific Assistant, Department of Civil Engineering, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore – 560012, residing at C/o. Dr. Sasikala Moorthy, No. 33, ITI Colony North Avenue, Krishnarajapura, Bangalore-560016.

NOTIFICATION

A domestic enquiry into the charge framed against you was conducted and on a detailed review and consideration of all the relevant records of the enquiry, the competent authority agrees with the findings of the Enquiry Officer that you have been found guilty of the charge and has ordered the penalty of your removal from the services of the Institute.
Accordingly you have been removed from the services of the Institute, with effect from 04.04.2022, vide Order No. R(HR)P.V.302(M)-476 dated 07.04.2022. The above said order, was sent to your residential address through Speed Post, has been returned by the postal authorities with a remark that "No Such Person".

Place: Bangalore **Sd/-, REGISTRAR**

BENGALURU NORTH UNIVERSITY
Sri Devaraj Urs Extension, Tamaka,
Kolar-563 103. E-mail: **registrar@bnu.ac.in**
Website: **www.bnu.karnataka.gov.in**
No. BNU/Affiliation/239/2022-23 Dated: 16.05.2022

NOTIFICATION

Bengaluru North University invites applications for various types of affiliation from the affiliated Colleges / Managements situated within the Bengaluru North University jurisdiction viz., Bengaluru Urban District (C.V.Ramannagara, K.R.Puram, Mahadevapura, Pulikeshinagara, Sarvagnanagara Vidhanasabha Constituencies.), Bengaluru Rural District (Doddaballapura, Devanahalli And Hoskote Vidhanasabha Constituencies), Chikkaballapur and Kolar Districts for the **Academic year 2022-23** as prescribed in Sections 59 and 62 of the KSU Act, 2000 and also specified in the K.S.U. (Amendment) Act 2015.
(1) Starting date for online Application: **16.05.2022.** **(2)** Last date for submission of online application: **04.06.2022. (3)** With a panel fee Rs.10,000/-: **10.06.2022.** **(4)** Last date for submission of **three sets** of hard copies to the University along with enclosures: **15.06.2022. (5)** Online-Application website : **https://www.onlineaffiliation.karnataka.gov.in/Affiliation22_23/**
For details visit : **www.bnu.karnataka.gov.in** For Further Clarification, please contact: 1) 7259975551 2) 9972764051

Sd/-
(Dr. Venkateshamurthy.V, K.A.S. (S)
Registrar
Bengaluru North University
DIPR/Kolar/R.O. No.88/MC&A/2022-23

COVID-19. DO NOT PANIC, BE AWARE
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

KARNATAKA STATE MINERALS CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Regd. Office : TTMC 'A' Block 5th Floor, BMTC Building, KH Road, Shanthingar , Bengaluru-560027.
Phone: 080-22278813/14/15/16, Fax : 080-22213172
Website: https://ksmc.karnataka.gov.in
GST : 29AACCM2873L1Z0

No. 45/KSMCL/PROD/GNT/GENERAL/CORRESPNDENCE/2022-23/586 Date: 20.05.2022

e-Tender Invitation

KSMCL invites e-tender for purchase of 12 Weighbridge with Portable Containers for our Mines and Quarries in Karnataka.

Calender of Event

Pre bid meeting date	31.05.2022 at 11:00 Hrs. at Head Office, Bengaluru
Last date for submission of Tender	20.06.2022 up to 17.00 Hrs.
Date of opening of Technical Tender	22.06.2022 at 11:00 Hrs.
Earnest MoneyDeposit (EMD)	Rs.3,25,000/-

Tender document may be downloaded from e-procurement GoK platform website: https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in Contact for any support in uploading & registration, e-procurement Helpdesk : 080-46010000/ 68948777.

Sd/-
General Manager (Mkt)
DIPR/CP/1685/AKAR/22-23

COVID-19 - DON'T SPREAD RUMOURS. ACT RESPONSIBLY. AVOID INFECTION-NOT THE INFECTED.
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

NOTIFICATION

PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES OF LOCAL PRODUCTS AT RAILWAY STATIONS

Applications are invited from the manufacturers of Channapatna Toys, specially from "Gombegalaooru" (toy town) of Karnataka, their Associations including Government agencies. Temporary functional stall with easy access to passengers will be made available to participants. Participants can sell toys at stations and on platforms also. The duration of the stall will be 15 days with effect from 24th May 2022. Only one stall will be permitted at KSR Bengaluru Station. If more than one application is received, the same will be allotted on draw of lots. The registration fee is Rs.1000/- only (Non-Refundable).

Applications may be submitted latest by **16-00 Hrs of 23-05-2022** in the office of Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, South Western Railway, Bengaluru - 560 023. It will be opened at **16-30 Hrs of 23-05-2022.**

Eligibility of applicants shall be as follows:
a) Holder of Artisan/Weaver ID card issued by Development Commissioner Handicrafts, Development Commissioner Handloom or by the requisite State/Central Government Authority.
b) Tribal artisans/weavers/ craftsmen enrolled/registered with TRIFED.
c) Registered Self Help Groups
d) Micro Enterprises registered under MSME.
e) The vendor already operating the stall at KSR Bengaluru station is not eligible to apply.
Interested persons can contact **Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Bengaluru Division (9731666950) or Chief Commercial Inspector, Bengaluru (9731666968).**

For details log on: www.swr.indianrailways.gov.in

Senior Divisional Commercial Manager Bengaluru
PUB/100/AAV/PRB/SWR/2022-23

S.W.Railways sw_rly SWRRLY southwesternrailway SWRRLY

A timely reminder

The Centre should be more conciliatory towards States' fiscal dilemmas, GST concerns

Pronouncing its verdict on a protracted dispute over the levy of Goods and Services Tax (GST) on ocean freight charges paid by importers, the Supreme Court on Thursday held that such a tax was untenable. Its 153-page judgment has also dwelt at length on the nature of the recommendations of the GST Council, the constitutional body set up to oversee the operations of the indirect tax regime. Invoking the spirit of cooperative federalism, the Court has held that both the Union and State legislatures have "equal, simultaneous and unique powers" to make GST laws, and the recommendations of the Council, where they have a one-third and two-thirds voting share, respectively, are not binding on them. While amending the Constitution to pave way for the tax system that subsumed multiple central and State levies, Parliament had intended for the Council's recommendations to only have 'a persuasive value', as per the Court. This has sparked fears that individual States can start vetoing the Council's recommendations that they do not agree with, and refuse to implement them, thus threatening the 'One Nation, One Tax' edifice of a reform that took years to bring about. Opposition-ruled States have hailed the verdict as upholding their rights *vis-à-vis* what a few termed as the 'arbitrary imposition' of Centre's decisions in the Council. The Finance Ministry has sought to quell anxiety by indicating that the Court has only elaborated on the Council's existing arrangement and the status quo would continue. States can already reject the Council's decisions but none has chosen to so far, it said.

While North Block undertakes a detailed review of the verdict, it is pertinent that it had argued that if the Council's recommendations were not binding, it would lead to an impasse and the entire GST structure would crumble. This does not hold water, the Court averred. That it has struck down a tax notified two days prior to the launch of the GST regime just as it is on the verge of completing five years, is perhaps, a fortuitous nudge for introspection on its journey and the way ahead. At worst, it can trigger more contestations in Council meetings, and at best, infuse a fresh sense of responsibility among members. The Centre could strive to be more conciliatory towards States' concerns and fiscal dilemmas, especially as their assured compensation clock winds down next month, rather than seek to bulldoze over thorny predicaments with the tacit support of NDA-ruled States in the Council. The Council should also meet more often to nurture the critical fiscal federalism dialogue in the right direction and minimise trust deficits. There are many pending reforms that require the Centre to work more cohesively with States to take India's economy forward and lift those left behind – including, but not limited to, an overhaul of land and labour markets as well as the agrarian sector.

Act early, decisively

Courts must act to end the legal onslaught to change nature of places of worship

It is a matter of great concern that laws are being used to rake up religious controversies to give a fig-leaf of legitimacy to a communal onslaught on the country's secular character. Obviously emboldened by the Supreme Court verdict handing over a disputed site in Ayodhya to Hindu claimants, determined and malicious efforts are being made by communal elements to capture sites in Varanasi and Mathura where the Gyanvapi mosque and Shahi Idgah Masjid are located. The idea that key places of worship among Muslims have been built after demolishing Hindu temples is beginning to take hold among sections of Indian society, with the active encouragement of politically affiliated religious groups. It was to prevent such attempts to change the character of places of worship in the name of correcting perceived historical wrongs that Parliament enacted the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991. It sought to freeze the status of places of worship as on August 15, 1947, so that existing suits and proceedings abate and new claims are not entertained. Yet, in flagrant violation of the law, courts are repeatedly allowing proceedings to be initiated. In Gyanvapi, not only has a civil judge entertained a suit but has also ordered a commission to videograph the mosque to ascertain its religious character. The Supreme Court has not been strong enough. Instead of putting an immediate halt to such proceedings aimed at creating a groundswell of opinion in favour of converting such sites into temples, it has only ordered some elementary measures to protect Muslim worshippers and their place of worship.

Anyone familiar with the history of the Ayodhya dispute, which led to the Babri Masjid's demolition, riots and bombings, will understand that all such attempts to change the character of places of worship have a motive of using religion for political ends and marginalising minorities. Yet, even the Supreme Court feels some inexplicable need to let procedural aspects of civil law to be gone through in such litigation. It has transferred the Gyanvapi suit to the District Judge and asked for priority to be given to the petition to reject the plaint – which will involve the question whether the suit is barred by the Places of Worship Act. As long as even one application is pending somewhere, revanchist groups will continue the relentless onslaught on minority places of worship. In Mathura, the District Court has overturned a lower court's order and ruled that the Act will not bar a suit aimed at removing a Masjid in the name of the site being the birthplace of Lord Krishna. The political atmosphere is conducive for such efforts, whose proponents will expect state backing. It is up to the courts to act early and act decisively to uphold the spirit of the Places of Worship Act and preserve communal peace.

The neighbourhood in turmoil, lessons for India

The impact of the changes on Indian policy will offer New Delhi a better understanding of future domestic challenges

SUHASINI HAIDAR

In late 2016, a senior Indian government official, in a meeting with the envoy of a neighbouring country, spelt out the consequences that the country would face if it crossed the Narendra Modi government's newly "muscular foreign policy". At the time,the Government had put Pakistan on notice on terror attacks, and cancelled Foreign Secretary-level talks; in Sri Lanka, the Rajapaksa government, that had been seen cozying up to China was voted out, with some reports that Indian intelligence played a role in facilitating opposition talks; and in Nepal, Prime Minister K.P. Sharma Oli's coalition government had fallen apart, with a similar nudge reported from New Delhi.

The message the official conveyed was that New Delhi would use all its levers to prevail over any uncooperative South Asian neighbour. However, the tough messaging did not find much favour over time. By the Modi government's second term, it had made peace with a much more consensual, conciliatory policy in the neighbourhood – visibly improving ties with each country (minus Pakistan) through high-level visits, extending development aid and lines of credit, and enabling a rush of soft power diplomacy.

A change in approach

The contrast between India's response to the events in 2016 to the present is stark, after five neighbouring democracies underwent non-electoral changes at the top, namely Myanmar, Nepal, Afghanistan, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. The first difference is that New Delhi has not been held responsible in any of its neighbouring capitals for attempting to interfere in their political processes. Second, South Block has abandoned its uniformly muscular "one size fits all" approach to the region.

While in Myanmar, the Modi government continued engagement and even strengthened ties with the military junta that overthrew the government led by Aung San Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy, in Afghanistan it severed ties with the Taliban that took power in Kabul by force after Afghan President Ashraf Ghani left the country. In Nepal where Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba came to power after the Supreme Court dismissed K.P. Oli, and Sri Lanka, where public protests forced Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa to resign and President Gotabaya Rajapaksa to appoint rival and Opposition leader Ranil Wickremesinghe as the new Prime Minister, New Delhi has been largely supportive of the processes. Whereas in Pakistan, it has virtually ignored the swearing-in of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif after Imran Khan lost the vote of confidence.

People more than leaders

A second lesson that seems to have been learnt is that New Delhi's messaging now is focused on people in the neighbourhood rather than just those in power. In Afghanistan, for example, the Modi government spent months in careful negotiation with Pakistani officials to ensure it could send 50,000 MT of wheat meant for the Afghan people, despite the fact that it has no diplomatic engagement with either Islamabad or Kabul otherwise. In Sri Lanka, a Ministry of External Affairs statement said that India would "always be guided by the best interests of the people of Sri Lanka expressed through democratic processes", a subtle pitch both to the people and to democratic processes in the region. A third lesson is perhaps the toning down of rhetoric on domestic issues in the neighbourhood – the Government's public reaction to Durga Pooja violence against Bangladesh's Hindu minority last year was much more nuanced than its messaging during the push ahead for the Citizenship (Amendment) Act in 2019. Some have even suggested that the continued delay in framing rules for the CAA since then has more to do with concern for ties with Dhaka than with the COVID-19 pandemic.

GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

A neutral position will not do

There are, however, other lessons that New Delhi must learn from the regime changes in the neighbourhood, and some of them apply to the Indian context as well. This is after all, the Indian subcontinent, set in the Indian Ocean, and what happens here cannot leave India untouched. Therefore, a silent or "neutral" position cannot mark the Modi government's response to the changes in the way it has with Russia's invasion of Ukraine or China's moves in Hong Kong or the South China Sea region. India faces the direct impact of almost every South Asian country in crisis, in terms of the need for aid and loans or a possible influx of refugees, as movements that develop in one neighbouring country are often mirrored in another. Therefore, they must be watched more closely.

The first lesson to be learnt is that populism does not pay in the long run. While the potent combination of hyper-nationalism, religious majoritarianism, and a strident anti-elitism can bring "men of the masses" such as Mahinda Rajapaksa, K.P. Oli, and Imran Khan to power (as they promise an alternative to corrupt, dynasti regimes), it does not necessarily keep them there. It is a mistake for any government to conflate an electoral win and a mandate for governance with a *carte blanche* for ruling a country.

The second is that the popularity of a leader can decline sharply and suddenly for one or a combination of reasons: K.P. Oli won a landslide victory in 2017 where his Left Alliance secured majorities in both houses, and formed governments in six of seven provinces; Imran Khan won all five National Assembly seats he fought in the 2018 elections, and while his party did not win a majority of seats, it won the popular vote; and the Rajapaksa-led Sri Lanka People's Party (SLPP) ruling coalition won 150 of 225 parliamentary seats in 2020. That these popular mandates could be cast aside in just a few years is a stark reminder that nothing is forever, especially in a democracy.

It is also clear that during the crises that Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka faced, the leaders who stepped into the breach may not have had the same political prowess or oratory presence as the leaders they replaced, but were acceptable both domestically and internationally because they had experience and education on their side. Mr. Deuba became Prime Minister for the fifth time, for example, Mr. Sharif had the longest tenure as Chief Minister of Pakistan's Punjab in three terms before he became Prime Minister, and Ranil Wickremesinghe was appointed Prime Minister for the sixth time.

The economy matters

The next lesson is one that United States President George H.W. Bush learned in 1992 despite the Iraq war and his pitch to patriotism, as Bill Clinton defeated him in an election where the big slogan was "It's the economy, stupid". In Pakistan, Nepal and Sri Lanka, the defeat of populists has come not so much at the hand of the Opposition parties, but by the slowdown in growth, jobs and rising inflation. India had already seen six successive quarters of straight losses in December 2019, and most of the neighbourhood was floundering as well, when COVID-19 was first reported. In the years that followed, the COVID-19 pandemic enforced lockdowns, and the resultant slowdown in the global economy made GDP figures in the region plummet. More recently, Russia's invasion of Ukraine and sanctions by the West have made food and fuel prices soar. In such a situation, the change in power in these three countries took only a small push, from the military, the courts, or from street protests. New Delhi must not only study the causes of the economic mismanagement that brought change in the neighbourhood but must also survey the impact of new vulnerabilities on smaller neighbouring countries that could be exploited by global powers as they seek a more direct influence in the region. Given the common challenges the region faces, New Delhi must find newer ways to energise regional groupings such as the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) and the Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal (BBIN) Initiative, and even to reconsider SAARC, in order to discuss shared approaches to reviving tourism and exports, supporting South Asian expatriate labour abroad, and building common pools of food and fuel stocks to soften inflationary blows on the South Asian economy.

Consensus needed

Finally, the Modi government must learn from the lessons in political culture that let down the "alpha leaders" in neighbouring democracies. One of the common threads in each of the governments (Rajapaksa, Oli and Khan) was an abhorrence for consensus building. In various ways, each of them turned their opposition into "the enemy", and froze out the media, non-governmental organisations, and any voting constituency other than their own. Nations, especially democracies run on many engines – not just the single monolithic one of the party or people in power. As New Delhi essays its role as a regional leader, the Government would be wise to not only study the impact of changes in the neighbourhood on Indian policy but also to look into the mirror the neighbours hold up to India, for a better understanding of its future challenges within the country.

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Talking peace, negotiating with the Maoists

Despite past experience and specific conditions, the Chhattisgarh government and the Maoists can work out a plan

R.K. VIJ

Recently, the Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh, Bhupesh Baghel, while meeting the people during his State-wide tour, announced that the State government was ready for peace talks with the Maoists provided they laid down arms and expressed their faith in the Constitution of India.

Some conditions

In its response, through its spokesperson (pseudonym, Vikalp), the Dandakaranya Special Zonal Committee (DKSZC) of the CPI(Maoist) alleged (in a pamphlet issued on May 5, 2022) that the offer was dodgy, and wanted the Chief Minister to clarify his stand on the Maoist's conditions for creating a conducive atmosphere in which to hold peace talks. The spokesperson also made other accusations and criticised the State government for not implementing the PESA or Provisions of Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 in Chhattisgarh. The major conditions the Maoists want include: a lifting of the ban on their party, the People's Liberation Guerilla Army (PLGA) and people's organisations; withdrawal of security forces from camps, and the release of jailed leaders in order to participate in the talks. As the State government did not change its earlier stand, there has been no progress.

Earlier, in 2010, then Home Minister P. Chidambaram, tried to bring the Maoists to the negotiating table, with the line, "If you call a halt to violence, we are prepared to talk to you." In response, Azad, alias Cherukuri Rajkumar (now deceased), a central politburo member and spokesperson of the Central Committee, CPI (Maoist), in an exclusive interview (11,400 words) to *The Hindu* ("'A ceasefire will create conducive atmosphere for talks'", April 2010), had it in writing what his party's three pre-conditions to a dialogue with the Union government were.

He clarified that the condition of 'withdrawal of all-out war' (as the first condition) was nothing but a cessation of hostilities by both sides simultaneously, i.e., mutual ceasefire and not unilateral ceasefire by the Maoists. Second, for peaceful legal work by the Maoists, lifting of the ban on the party (the second condition) was necessary. The third condition was that the government should adhere to the Constitution and end the illegal murders in the name of encounters, tortures and arrests. In order to hold talks, it was necessary for the government to release some leaders (also a part of the third condition) or else, there would be no one to talk to since the entire party was illegal.

This interview and the stand by Ganapathi (then party general secretary) on talks with the government were also published in the Maoist magazine, 'People's March'. Swami Agnivesh, the peace broker between the government of India and the Maoists, forwarded Mr. Chidambaram's letter of May 11, 2010 (addressed to Swami Agnivesh) to Azad which specifically mentioned the Maoists promise 'no violence for 72 hours' to initiate talks. Azad responded to Swami Agnivesh (May 31, 2010) and reiterated the party's stand. However, Azad was killed in an encounter with the Greyhound commando force of the Andhra Pradesh police on July 2, 2010 and the process of trust building derailed.

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Why talks failed

In the State Assembly election campaign in 2004, the Congress party promised to revive the peace process (that had broken down during Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu's regime) if voted to power in Andhra Pradesh. To initiate talks, the State government lifted the ban on the party in May 2004. Consequently, there was four-day peace dialogue in October 2004 between the representatives of the People's War (PW) party and government representatives at the initiative of the Committee of Concerned Citizens. A mutually acceptable team of mediators (led by former civil servant S.R. Sankaran) was constituted and an agreement on a ceasefire (eight clauses) was reached. The PW party (which had just merged with the Maoist Communist Centre of India, and other splinter Maoist groups in September 2004 to form the CPI(Maoist)), proposed a 11-point charter of demands such as legislation on land ceiling; creation of a separate state of Telangana; and questions associated with armed action by either side. Matters of land reform figured prominently in the discussions. While the State representatives raised the issue of laying down arms, this was not the agreed agenda and the issue was held in reserve for the second round of talks.

'Clause 7' (of the ceasefire agreement) which permitted the Maoists to undertake propagation of their politics without carrying weapons, had become problematic. Though the Maoists at the peace talks had handed over their weapons to their cadres while leaving the jungles, media pictures of activity by their armed squads made the police uneasy. The talks ended with an agreement on a ceasefire till December 16, the government promised to consider the main demand of land distribution among the landless, and talks again in November. Later, the Chief Minister declared that there would be no talks with the Maoists unless they agreed to lay down arms. The Andhra Pradesh Home Minister levelled allegations against the Naxalites about extortion for their meetings and construction of their memorials. Thus the peace process collapsed midway and the ban was re-imposed on the CPI(Maoist) and its sister organisations.

Using this background, it can be reasonably implied that the Maoist's demand of withdrawal of armed police forces can be met by a mutually agreed 'ceasefire', with its limited meaning of abjuring violence by the Maoists and the halting of anti-Maoist operations by security forces for some period. The State government cannot afford the risk of moving out security forces as a pre-condition for initiating peace talks.

Government actions

Second, the release of jailed Maoist leaders need not be made a pre-condition by the Maoists, as most senior Maoist leaders are at large; there is no senior cadre in Chhattisgarh's jails. Moreover, the Chhattisgarh government has not only withdrawn criminal cases against many tribals but has also ensured expeditious trial of Naxal cases. The government is also hard at work to implement PESA.

However, with regard to the third condition, of lifting a ban on the CPI(Maoist), the PLGA and its front organisations, some concessions may be thought of to let the talks happen. Further, it cannot be denied that the Maoists misused the ceasefire during the 2004 peace talks in Andhra Pradesh; Azad admitted in the interview, "We used it to take our politics widely among the people in the State and outside." Therefore, moving forward with the lessons learned, suitable modalities may be worked out if both sides are serious about peace talks.

R.K. Vij is a former Special DGP of Chhattisgarh. The views expressed are personal

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Claims and disputes

One would have thought that with the end of the Ayodhya case, disputes over places of worship had come to an end, or had been resolved. Surprisingly, they have only begun. The Gyanvapi case is one such example. If the argument in this particular case is to be accepted, there are sure to be disputes all over the country, over temples and mosques, and there would be very little time left for the judiciary to resolve meaningful disputes. One begins to feel that the Supreme Court of India should have declared Ayodhya a monument.

N.G.R. PRASAD,
Chennai

Quarry operations

With the increase in the demand for M-Sand as a replacement for river sand in the construction industry, quarrying activity has increased manifold. Although commercial dimension stone quarry operations in Tamil Nadu have been known since the 1970s, the mushrooming of rough stone quarries for M-Sand is more recent, spreading across hard rock zones (which, geologically, occupy large parts of Tamil Nadu). Geological constraints control safe mining operations in such hard rock areas. In the well known Achankoyil shear zone, for instance, the rocks may be Charnockite and of associated gneissic variants. The joint pattern and shear effects are evident in these rocks even at 300 feet. Weathered rocks (in the upper reaches of a quarry) are usually loose. Such conditions when combined with indiscriminate heavy blasting make quarrying more hazardous. Safe mining is hardly observed in these quarries. Deep quarrying beyond 60m or 200 ft is not allowed. Also, quarry wall and bench-wise slope stabilisation methods are not adopted.

V. NATARAJAN,
Chennai

Gold in Istanbul

Boxer Nikhat Zareen winning the gold medal in the flyweight division is a fine example of individualism and dedication. Anything can be achieved if one is focused. Her story is one that inspires many.

MANOJ KUMAR JENA,
Cuttack, Odisha

Faith, caste, patriarchy, and murder

On the night of January 30 this year, Syed Ashrin Sulthana left home to marry Billipuram Nagaraju, the man she loved. Just over three months later, Nagaraju was killed by her relatives. **Marri Ramu** chronicles how a poignant inter-faith romance ended in tragedy

Syed Ashrin Sulthana mourns her husband Nagaraju's killing in his family home in Marpally, Vikarabad district. (Below): Anasuya, Nagaraju's mother, at her house in Marpally days after her son was killed. • RAMAKRISHNA G.

On the sultry evening of May 4, Nagaraju picked up his wife, Ashrin, from the house of his relative, Lingam, where he had dropped her in the afternoon. Waving goodbye to Lingam and promising to meet him soon, Nagaraju, a car showroom employee, rode his bike from Panjala Anil Kumar colony towards the couple's rented home in the nearby Brindavan colony. That was the last time Lingam saw him.

The Kothapet-Victoria Memorial Home road in Saroornagar in Hyderabad was bustling at 8.45 p.m. Not too far from Panjala Anil Kumar colony, Nagaraju had to turn right to head home. On reaching the turn, he halted for a moment, waiting for the traffic to slow down.

Suddenly, two men riding a scooter intercepted the newly married couple. They jumped off their vehicle, rushed towards Nagaraju and Ashrin, and pushed them off the bike. Nagaraju's helmet slipped off his head. One of the assailants hit him on the head with a steel rod. By the time Ashrin got up, the assailant had "hit Nagaraju's head with the rod two to three times," according to the First Information Report (FIR) issued by the Saroornagar police, filed on the complaint of Nagaraju's relative, Talari Danaiah. The attacker then handed the rod to his associate, brandished a knife and tried to stab Nagaraju. Ashrin began screaming for help. "I pleaded with onlookers and passers-by with folded hands to save my husband, but no one responded," she later said in interviews with the media.

As the knife somehow got bent, the first assailant again rushed towards Nagaraju, who was now lying motionless on the road, with the rod. Ashrin tried to block his way and hold his hands. She was in for a shock. "That is when I identified him as my elder brother Mobin," she was quoted as saying by the police. As Ashrin resisted him, Syed Mobin Ahmed pushed her and repeatedly hit Nagaraju's head with the rod, videos of the murder showed.

"I even pleaded with Mobin not to kill Nagaraju, saying I would return to the family with him, but he continued to attack Nagaraju," Ashrin told the police.

Some bystanders tried to help the couple. Video clips in the public domain show one bystander throwing a helmet at the attackers and some hurling stones at them. "After confirming that Nagaraju was dead, Mobin and his acquaintance, identified as Ashrin's elder sister's husband, Mohammed Masood, fled the spot," the complainant said.

Ashrin collapsed before Nagaraju's body, crying inconsolably. The couple's seven-year-old love story and 92-day-old inter-faith marriage had come to a gruesome, tragic end.

Within minutes, reports of "a Hindu being murdered by Muslims" spread. Some people staged a protest on the road demanding "justice for the victim's family" and the "death penalty for the killers". The police asked the protesters to leave and promised action as per the law.

The beginning and the end

Syed Ashrin Sulthana and Billipuram Nagaraju were students of the Government Junior College in Marpally in Vikarabad district, 90 km from Hyderabad. The village of nearly 2,000 homes has a mixed population of Hindus and Muslims. Nagaraju, 25, belonged to the Mala Scheduled Caste. He was the first of the two children of agricultural labourers Anasuya and Srinivas, who live in Ambedkar Colony.

Ashrin's family earlier lived in Ghanapuram village, 8 km from Marpally. Ashrin's father was a daily-wage earner; her mother is a homemaker. Apart from Mobin, the oldest among the siblings, Ashrin has two older sisters and one younger brother.

Ashrin and Nagaraju were friends in college; the friendship soon turned into romance. "We knew they were in love, but we were not sure if they would tie the knot since they belonged to different religions," said Ramesh, Nagaraju's senior and a close friend.

On completing the intermediate course, Nagaraju joined a mechanics course in an Industrial Training Institute in Hyderabad. Ashrin's family also shifted to IDPL colony of Balanagar in Hyderabad city. She graduated from a private college and began working in the private sector. As her father was not keeping well, Mobin had to run the household. He began selling fruits on push-carts and organised the marriage of two sisters with his meagre earnings. After their father passed away four years ago, Mobin began looking for a partner for Ashrin. He planned to get married after Ashrin's nikah.

But Ashrin had decided to marry Nagaraju, and informed her family about it. Mobin made it clear that he disapproved. "But Nagaraj and I were determined to get married," she told the media.

Ashrin repeatedly tried to persuade Mobin to agree to the marriage. "My brother is an aggressive man. He vehemently opposed the idea," she said.

Realising that Mobin was not going to relent, Ashrin decided to leave home. On the night of January 30 this year, she left her mobile phone in the house before stepping out. She called Nagaraju from another person's phone and met him at Miyapur, northwest of Hyderabad.

The next day, Nagaraju tied the knot with Ashrin in an Arya Samaj wedding, with Hindu rites. She changed her name to Pallavi. Hours later, she called an aunt and informed her that she had married Nagaraju.

On hearing the news, Mobin and his friends rushed to Marpally looking for his sister. The search was fruitless and Mobin returned to the city. He approached the Balanagar police to register a complaint about her disappearance. The police registered a case of missing person. Their analysis of Nagaraju's mobile phone call detail record showed that he frequently phoned his friend Raju. The police summoned Raju for questioning. He told the Balanagar Inspector, Waheeduddin, that the couple had got legally married.

In the FIR too, the complainant, Danaiah, said that the couple feared they would get into trouble if they went to the Balanagar police station in whose jurisdiction Ashrin's family lived. "On the night of January 30, Mobin beat up Ashrin when she had once again raised the subject of marrying Nagaraju. It seems like that compelled her to leave the house," Waheeduddin said.

Unwilling to appear before the Balanagar police, the newly married couple met Vikarabad Superintendent of Police N. Koti Reddy at his office. They told him that they were both of marriageable age and had got married willingly. "They did not speak of any threat to their lives. As a precautionary measure, I directed the Mominpet Inspector to speak to the couple and their respective family heads," Koti Reddy said.

The Mominpet police informed the Balanagar police probing the missing person case that the woman they were searching for had got married. "But Mobin insisted that he wanted to see his sister and confirm that she was safe. So, he and two family members were taken to the Mominpet police station on February 15," Inspector Waheeduddin said.

The couple and Nagaraju's family members were also asked to come there. In the presence of the police of Mominpet and Balanagar, members of both families met the couple in the police station.

"There were emotional outbursts from Mobin and his family, but Ashrin firmly said she wanted to be with her husband," said police officers who were present there. Nagaraju and Ashrin gave written statements to the police reiterating that they had got married of their own free will. Mobin too gave a written statement that he had met his missing sister and had heard her version. Since no case could be made on Mobin's complaint, the matter was closed.

Police officers maintained that they did not see any serious threat to Nagaraju's life from Ashrin's family then.

Nagaraju, however, had remained cautious. He did not disclose his whereabouts after he got married. Even his close friends from Marpally village were not sure where he and his wife lived. "In fact, many of us knew about his marriage only when the two families were summoned to Mominpet police station for counselling," his friends said.

He may have wanted to remain private or he may have been worried about possible offensive moves by his in-laws, said a police officer of Rachakonda involved in the investigation. "He not only changed his mobile phone but secured a new SIM card. Apparently, he did not want to be tracked," said the officer, on condition of anonymity.

A few days before he was murdered, Nagaraju told Ashrin that he spotted Masood, her brother-in-law, moving outside his workplace. Nagaraju worked in a car service centre in Malakpet. Ashrin did not see anything amiss in that. "Going by Masood's earlier reaction to my marriage proposal, I did not foresee any danger from him," Ashrin said.

She would later regret it. "Maybe Nagaraju would have been alive had Ashrin explored the possible motive behind Masood's movements at his workplace," said Nagaraju's family members at Marpally.

Within hours of the murder, Mobin and Masood were caught by the police.

Ramadevi, Nagaraju's younger sister who lives with her parents, was at a relative's house in Ambedkar Colony, over 110 km from the murder spot, when she got a phone call from Ashrin. She rushed to Hyderabad with her parents. After the painful formalities of the autopsy, her distraught parents returned home. They laid their only son's body to rest at a local graveyard. "All these years we lived fearlessly here. With my brother murdered, how can we be sure that someone will not emerge from the dark at night and assault us," asked Ramadevi.

Tracing Nagaraju

Ashrin was perplexed by how Masood knew of Nagaraju's whereabouts. "Interestingly, it is not Masood but Mobin who tracked Nagaraju," said an interrogator who grilled the duo after nabbing them.

Mobin wanted to trace Nagaraju and take vengeance for marrying his sister. He spoke to Nagaraju's acquaintances and tried to contact his friends. All these efforts yielded no results. Searches in areas where he thought the couple could be living were futile too.

But Mobin did not give up. He tried to trace Nagaraju's mobile phone. Mobin, a high school graduate, is reportedly not tech-savvy. When he had lost an Android smartphone a couple of years ago, someone suggested that he use 'Find My Device', a Google app that helps locate lost, misplaced or stolen mobile phones. There are two ways of tracing a phone through the app: one, by keying in the person's email id and two, their phone number. The officers, who told Ashrin not to mention their names, informed her that among the possibilities they were investigating is that Mobin used the app to close in on her husband.

But how did Mobin trace Nagaraju if he had a new phone and SIM card, Ashrin asked the police officers who met her at Marpally.

The first way of tracing a phone location through the 'Find My Device' app is by entering the email id with which the Android phone was set up. The police said it is likely that Mobin, who did not have Nagaraju's email id, typed out Nagaraju's old phone number on the Truecaller app and got Nagaraju's email id from there. Nagaraju, they believe, used the same email id to set up his new phone. It is crucial to note that the 'Find My Device' app helps a person track all the mobile phones set up with the same email id.

Once the email id is available, the next crucial piece of information that a tracker needs is the phone password. "It seems that Nagaraju used his old phone number as his password for his email. When Mobin randomly typed that number, the app showed Nagaraju's phone location," his family members were heard discussing at their home in Marpally.

Had Nagaraju set up his new phone with a different email id or changed his password, it would not have been possible for anyone to locate him through these apps.

During interrogation, Mobin reportedly admitted that he and Masood conducted a reconnaissance of Nagaraju's workplace to attack him. The police are examining the footage of surveillance cameras in the vicinity of Nagaraju's workplace to ascertain if Mobin and Masood really did a recce of the area with a plan to attack him. "It seems they initially wanted to kill him at his workplace, but changed the place as they anticipated resistance by the customers and employees there," a senior police officer of Rachakonda said.

The motive

On the fateful night of May 4, Nagaraju started from his workplace around 8.15 p.m. in Malakpet to Lingam's house to pick up his wife. Mobin and Masood followed him on their scooter. They turned on the app, said the officer of Rachakonda.

On reaching the colony, Nagaraju disappeared inside a lane. The attackers, who were following him and moving in the same direction on Kothapet main road, lost track of him for a while. But the app led them to the right spot and the couple and their attackers came face to face at the turn. Within minutes, Nagaraju was dead.

The Saroornagar police registered a case under Section 302 (murder) of the Indian Penal Code read with Section 34 (common intention), and Section 3(2) (v) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act. The Dalit youth's murder had brought the issues of family or hate killings to the centre stage yet again.

G. Laxman, a retired university professor who is with the Civil Liberties Committee, refused to describe the murder as a consequence of an inter-faith marriage. "This is more a case of caste hatred. More than religion, it was the perception of feeling humiliated that a woman had married a Dalit that led to this," he said. He recalled the murder of Pranay, by hired assassins, in 2018 in Nalgonda, 100 km from Hyderabad. The killers were allegedly hired by an upper caste Vysya businessman, Maruthi Rao, whose daughter, Amrutha, had married Pranay, a Dalit. Similarly, in 2020, the family members of Avanthi Reddy, who had married an interior designer belonging to the Vysya community, Hemanth, are alleged to have hired assassins to kill him in Hyderabad's upscale Gachibowli area.

"Despite the uproar over Pranay's murder, the State failed to initiate specific steps to check such murders in the name of honour. Can't the government have helplines that can come to the rescue of youngsters marrying outside their caste or religion," the retired professor asked. The government has failed to send out a clear message that such crimes would be dealt with severely, he said.

"The state should at least ensure that these cases are not dragged on for years together," said Telangana High Court lawyer Raghunath Verose. Pranay's murder trial is a classic example, he said. Amrutha was pregnant when hired assassins killed Pranay in front of her eyes. The child is three years and four months now. "Delayed justice in such crimes is one of the factors emboldening the killers," Amrutha said. She hoped that the trial of the case will be over at least by the end of this year.

'His family is my family now'

Political parties were quick to condemn Nagaraju's murder. All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen president and Hyderabad Member of Parliament (MP) Asaduddin Owaisi said that marriage is a matter of choice and right, and murder is the worst crime in Islam. The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) said the murder showed intolerance towards a Hindu boy marrying a Muslim girl. Telangana BJP president and Karimnagar MP Bandi Sanjay sought to know why the "secularists" who had raised their voice against Pranay's murder were not responding with equal vigour when a Muslim girl's family members had murdered a Hindu. Former Indian Police Service officer and Bahujan Samaj Party Telangana president R.S. Praveen Kumar said he does not believe Nagaraju was killed only because he was a Dalit. Kumar believes Mobin was angry that his sister had dared to defy the family by marrying a person outside the religion.

Politicians, social activists and voluntary organisations have all been visiting Ashrin, who now lives with her in-laws in their small house in Ambedkar Nagar. Utensils, clothes and their whole world is contained in one room. The family uses a bathroom 'constructed' with old clothes wrapped around four wooden sticks. When asked if she will join her ageing mother now that Mobin is in prison, Ashrin said her late husband's family is her family now. "My mother may need me, but Nagaraju's family needs my support more," she said.

FROM PAGE ONE

29 phones tested for Pegasus spyware: SC

When the parties, including the Union, urged the court to make the interim report public, Chief Justice Ramana proceeded to summarise its contents. The CJI said the interim report had divided its court-appointed task into two areas.

"One is regarding the inquiry itself. That is, the fact-finding report regarding the technical issues relating to the digital forensic aspects about the reported use of Pegasus malware to target mobiles of Indian citizens. Second is regarding recommendations about the enhancement of existing laws and procedures related to surveillance and securing rights including privacy, cyber security, etc.," Chief Justice Ramana explained.

He said the first part of the task was being done by the committee under the supervision of the overseeing judge. The second part was being taken care of by the judge and two other experts assisting him. Once the technical committee submitted its report to the overseeing judge, he would add his own report on the laws to it.

Passing the order, the Bench, also comprising Justices Surya Kant and Hima Kohli, directed the technical committee to "expedite the examination of the mobile devices which they have received, preferably within a period of four weeks, and submit a report to the overseeing judge".

The court posted the case for hearing in July.

Gyanvapi case sent to district judge

The court further ordered the District Magistrate to make arrangements, if not already made, for Muslims to offer *wazu khana* before *namaz* at the mosque. Though the Bench acknowledged that the complex case needed a "seasoned" hand like the District Judge, it did not heed repeated requests from the Anjuman, represented by senior advocate Huzefa Ahmadi, to "nip in the bud" a string of earlier orders passed by the civil judge.

Mr. Ahmadi said the civil judge's *ex parte* orders had ranged from constituting an advocate commission to conduct a videographic survey of the mosque grounds to sealing of the premises after the *shivling* was said to have been found. The senior lawyer said these orders, unless set aside, would "fester". They could even reduce the Places of Worship Act of 1991, a law which protects the identity of religious places of worship, into a "dead-letter".

He questioned why the Commission to conduct a videographic survey and inspection was even appointed. He said the 1991 Act prohibited conversion of religious places of worship and mandated that the character of religious places of worship as on August 15, 1947 cannot be altered to another denomination.

Panel indicts Telangana police for 2019 killings

The commission recommended that the police officers who were part of the extra-judicial killing should be tried for murder.

A Bench led by Chief Justice of India N.V. Ramana refused the Telangana government's fervent pleas to keep the commission report, submitted by advocate K. Parameshwar, confidential.

The court allowed it to be placed in the public domain and transferred the case to the Telangana High Court for further proceedings. The commission was appointed in December 2019 on a petition filed by advocate and petitioner, G.S. Mani, who had sought a CBI or a Special Investigation Team probe. Mr. Mani had contended that the encounter was a red-herring, deliberately done to turn public attention away from the police's inability to prevent crimes against women.

Among the several queer twists in the police's story, the commission found it "strange", that the four could have gathered enough soil in their hands to incapacitate an entire police escort team. "Especially, when the scene of incident was a fallow land covered with lush green weeds and picking up soil from the ground is well-nigh impossible. A handful could have been collected only by scraping the ground with some effort, but nowhere enough to simultaneously throw in the eyes of 12 persons so as to incapacitate them and attack them," the Commission explained.

One dead, 10 trapped as tunnel caves in

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
SRINAGAR

One worker was found dead and around 10 others are trapped after an under-construction tunnel caved in on the Srinagar-Jammu national highway near Ramban on Thursday night.

Rescue workers brought out three workers safely. The debris covered the entire freshly drilled opening of the T3 tunnel near Khooni Nallah at Ramban.

The official said around 10 persons were believed to be trapped, after a part of the under-construction tunnel caved in around 10 p.m. on Thursday. The rescue workers are facing a tough task as frequent shooting stones are making it harder to remove debris covering the mouth of the tunnel. The length of the tunnel is only around three meters. Most of the trapped are workers of the Sarla Company.

FDI inflow 'highest ever' at $83.57 billion

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The foreign direct investment (FDI) in the financial year 2021-22 has touched a "highest-ever" figure of $83.57 billion. The Ministry of Commerce and Industry said this was "endorsement" of India's status among global investors.

"The government reviews the FDI policy on an ongoing basis and makes significant changes from time to time, to ensure that India remains an attractive investor-friendly destination. The government has put in place a liberal and transparent policy for FDI, wherein most of the sectors are open to FDI under the automatic route," an official release said.

Welfare schemes should reach every beneficiary, urges Modi

Prime Minister reminds BJP cadre of the goal during office-bearers meeting

SOBHANA K. NAIR
MOHAMMED IQBAL
NEW DELHI/JAIPUR

Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his virtual address at a meeting of BJP national office-bearers held in Jaipur, spoke about reaching a "saturation" point in implementation of welfare schemes of his government.

The saturation point, he said must not only be a statistical aim. "When we talk about saturation, our aim must be to free the country from the clutches of discrimination, nepotism, appeasement and corruption," he said.

Mr. Modi's comments assume importance in the backdrop of the narrative floated by the BJP on how it was the *labharthis* class created due to the welfare schemes of the Union government that won the party Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections twice in a row.

In focus: J.P. Nadda with party leaders during the BJP national office bearers' meeting, in Jaipur on Friday. •PTI

Mr. Modi said that he had laid down this aim during his last Independence Day address when he spoke about reaching out to hundred percent *labharthis* or beneficiaries. This is a difficult target, he said, considering the size of the country and many schemes are dependent on the State governments. Despite all this, if we commit to reach to every *labharthi* and finish the possibility of not leaving even a single beneficiary behind, then we shall achieve the aim.

"Like we reach every home during an election, we should take the welfare schemes to every house," he said. It was time for the BJP to set targets for the next 25 years, he said.

The BJP government post-2014 has restored the faith of the people in the government, its systems and its delivery mechanism, that had been lost earlier, the Prime Minister added. "This hope and aspirations of the people increase our responsibility," he told the office-bearers.

His speech also comes just days before his government completes eight years and at a time when the Mandir-Masjid debate has been reignited with the ongoing Gyanvapi case. Ducking this debate entirely, Mr. Modi instead spoke about developmental politics. He credited the BJP for main-streaming this narrative as opposed to others seeking "shortcut" to power.

'Mahila, Youth, Yojana — winning formula in polls'

Union Ministers to visit villages

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The BJP credited its winning streak in Uttar Pradesh Assembly polls on the MYY factor that translates into Mahila, Youth and Yojana (welfare schemes) – MYY being a careful play on the MY (Muslim-Yadav) factor that political analysts often refer to as the Samajwadi Party's and RJD's core votebank. This was laid down at a meeting of the party's national office bearers at Jaipur on Friday.

Addressing a press conference at Jaipur during the meet, BJP's national general secretary Vinod Tawde told reporters that the party will celebrate eight years of the Modi government on the theme of "*sewa, sushasan aur garib kalyan*".

The party has also adopted a resolution on the eight years of Modi government. In order to collect people's feedback on the government policies, "all Union Ministers will visit villages across the country to interact with beneficiaries [of welfare schemes] and stay overnight there," Mr. Tawde said.

Rising above factors

The party also hailed Prime Minister's "transformative" leadership for ensuring party's victory in the Assembly polls of Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Goa and Manipur. Mr. Tawde said people voted for the BJP, rising above all considerations including caste.

This MYY factor, Mr. Tawade said, works beyond the confines of castes and sects.

At the BJP's national office-bearer's meeting, another resolution highlighted the Modi government's "India First" foreign policy, which the BJP said checked regional imbalance.

New political possibilities on U.P. horizon

Shivpal Yadav was outside jail to greet Azam

OMAR RASHID
LUCKNOW

On Friday, as senior Samajwadi Party (SP) leader Mohammad Azam Khan was released from a jail in Sitapur after spending 27 months there, what stood out was that his former colleague and estranged uncle of party president Akhilesh Yadav, Shivpal Yadav, was present to greet him.

Mr. Akhilesh, who was in Lucknow attending a special session of the Assembly, welcomed Mr. Khan's release with a tweet even as some second-line SP leaders were at the spot.

"Lies last only for moments, not centuries," he tweeted in reference to the dozens of alleged false cases lodged against Mr. Khan by the State government.

Warm welcome: Azam Khan being welcomed by supporters after his release from Sitapur Jail, in Rampur on Friday. •PTI

Ever since loyalists of Mr. Khan came out in public to accuse Mr. Akhilesh of not doing enough to support the incarcerated leader from Rampur, Mr. Shivpal increased overtures and indicated he was interested in building a new political alliance with Mr. Khan.

Where Mr. Khan, an SP MLA like his son Abdullah Azam, truly stands politically after two years in jail would be revealed after he settles down in his west U.P. borough Rampur, but by driving from Lucknow to Sitapur to welcome the Muslim leader, Mr. Shivpal, who has distanced himself from his nephew, showed his intent and got tongues wagging once again about new political possibilities.

In one of the pictures shared by Mr. Shivpal on social media, Mr. Khan was seen with his hand placed on Mr. Shivpal's chest in reciprocation of the Yadav leader's friendly gesture.

How State police tried to keep Azam Khan in jail

ABHINAY LAKSHMAN
NEW DELHI

The Uttar Pradesh police's efforts to keep Samajwadi Party stalwart Mohd. Azam Khan in custody were interrupted as the SP leader walked out of the Sitapur Jail on Friday after more than two years in custody.

While granting him the relief, the Supreme Court had outlined the circumstances under which Mr. Khan was implicated in the 88th FIR against him.

The court noted that even though this FIR was registered in March 2020 and a chargesheet filed, the U.P. police did not consider implicating Mr. Khan in the said case until the Supreme Court started hearing his case this year.

The court also noted that the police had alleged that he had threatened the investigating officer of the case. However, it also pointed out the "sheer coincidence" in the timing of this threat, which was registered by the police as a General Diary entry at 3:04 a.m. on May 17, only hours before the top court was to hear the matter.

Court notes pattern

While hearing Mr. Khan's case last week, the Court had also noted a pattern in the police action against him, orally pointing out that the 9-time SP MLA was being arrested in a fresh case every time he was granted bail in a previous one to prolong his incarceration.

Karti told to join probe in visa scam case

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

A special CBI court on Friday noted that 48 hours was not enough and directed the CBI to give a written notice three working days in advance to Sivaganga MP Karti Chidambaram before arresting him in the case related to the bribes for visa scam.

The special court also directed Mr. Karti Chidambaram to join the investigation within 16 hours of returning from London.

Special CBI Judge M.K. Nagpal was hearing an application for anticipatory bail filed by Mr. Karti Chidambaram when it passed the directions.

The CBI had arrested S. Bhaskararaman, Mr. Karti Chidambaram's chartered accountant, in the case and is currently interrogating him in its custody.

Appearing for Mr. Karti Chidambaram, Senior Advocate Kapil Sibal argued that *prima facie* illegality against his client had not yet been established and that there was nothing to show his involvement other than the bare statement.

KCR to begin tour with Chandigarh as first stop

TRS aims to make an anti-BJP front without Congress

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao who had promised to return to Delhi to build a consensus for an anti-BJP forum, reached the capital on Friday, marking the beginning of his whirlwind tour of the country.

In the next fortnight he will be meeting AAP, Trinamool and Janata Dal(S) leaders. On April 11, during a day-long *dharna* of the Telangana State Cabinet along with all Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS) law makers both in State Assembly and Parliament, Mr. Rao had said that he will bring together every non-BJP party to fight for introducing a legal backing for minimum support price (MSP). He had also said that he will be back in Delhi to initiate talks with the Opposition parties on the upcoming Presidential elections.

K. Chandrasekhar Rao

On Sunday, he will be heading to Chandigarh where along with Chief Ministers of Punjab Bhagwant Mann and Delhi Chief Minister, he will be distributing cheques to the families of 600 farmers from Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi who lost their lives in the farmers agitation.

On May 26, he is headed to visit Bengaluru to meet former Prime Minister Deve Gowda. Interestingly, he is also planning to make a pit stop at Ralegan Siddi to meet social activist Anna Hazare who spearheaded the anti-corruption movement in the run up to the 2014 Lok Sabha elections. This visit assumes importance because the TRS is aiming to construct an anti-BJP front without the Congress.

Later in the month, he is also planning to visit West Bengal and Bihar, though so far, the Telangana Rashtra Samithi does not have his schedule for the two States. Sources said that during his visit to these two States, he will be meeting families of soldiers martyred in Galwan valley and extend them financial assistance.

Calcutta HC asks govt. to release DA

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KOLKATA

In a significant development that will have a direct impact on West Bengal government employees, the Calcutta High Court on Friday upheld an order by the State Administrative Tribunal (SAT) and directed the State government to release Dearness Allowance (DA) and Arrear Dearness Allowance to its employees as per the West Bengal Services (Revision of Pay and Allowance) Rules, 2009 within a period of three months.

A division Bench of Justice Harish Tandon and Justice Rabindranath Samanta dismissed the writ petition of the State government filed in 2019 challenging the SAT order directing DA payment to the employees.

Representatives of the State government employee's union said that they have been fighting for the DA since 2016.

RS seat up for grabs if Sambhajiraje joins Sena

He plans to contest as an Independent

STAFF REPORTER
MUMBAI

The Shiv Sena will consider sixth Rajya Sabha seat from Maharashtra to Sambhajiraje Chhatrapati – current Rajya Sabha member who has already declared to contest the coming Upper House elections as an Independent – if he decides to join the party.

On Thursday night, Mr. Sambhajiraje – a descendant of warrior king Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj – held a meeting with Maharashtra Chief Minister and Sena president Uddhav Thackeray. According to sources, Mr. Thackeray is willing to extend him the seat in case he decides to join the party. However, Sambhajiraje is yet to a give positive response.

The Sena has already announced that out of six seats up for grab, the party will contest two seats while other Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) allies, the Congress and the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP), will contest a seat each.

Respecting choices

Sena leader Sanjay Raut told reporters that the party respected Sambhajiraje Chhatrapati and it would welcome him to the party fold. "Our leader Uddhav-*ji* has expressed the desire to contest the second seat. And the party will consider Sambhajiraje's candidature if he joins the party," said Mr. Raut.

Presently, the MVA government has a strength of 169 MLAs and with a death of Sena MLA Ramesh Latke, it now stands at 168.

The NCP has already said that it will transfer the extra votes with the party to the sixth candidate decided by the Sena. Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar said the party would support the Sena's choice reminding how it had previously supported the NCP candidate.

Sidhu sent to Patiala jail in road rage case

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
PATIALA

Congress leader Navjot Singh Sidhu surrendered before a court here on Friday, a day after being sentenced to one-year rigorous imprisonment by the Supreme Court in a 1988 road rage death case.

"He surrendered before the court of Chief Judicial Magistrate Amit Malhan," said senior advocate HPS Verma, who accompanied Sidhu to the court.

The former Punjab Congress president surrendered shortly after 4 p.m., and was taken for the mandatory medical examination, conducted at the Mata Kaushalya Hospital. After the medical checkup, he was lodged in the Patiala Central Jail.

This came just hours after the former Punjab Congress president approached the Supreme Court seeking a few week to surrender to serve the imprisonment.

HC cancels appointment of Minister's daughter

It also directs return of salary received

SHIV SAHAY SINGH
KOLKATA

The Calcutta High Court on Friday directed that Ankita Adhikary, daughter of West Bengal Minister of State for Education Paresh Chandra Adhikary, be removed from the post of teacher in a State-run school and also instructed her to return the salary received from the school. Justice Abhijit Gangopadhyay also directed that Ms. Adhikary will not be treated as a teacher and she or any person on her behalf will not be allowed inside the school premises.

On May 17, in an order, Justice Gangopadhyay had pointed at irregularities in the appointment of Ms. Adhikary and directed the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to register an FIR against the minister and his daughter. The FIR was registered on May 19.

Justice Gangopadhyay, in his order on Friday, said that the post to which Ms. Adhikary was appointed shall be earmarked for the petitioner Babita Sarkar. Ms. Adhikari will deposit the salary received for 41 months to the Registrar of Calcutta High Court in two installments in June and July.

Ms. Adhikary has been working as a teacher since November 2018 at Indira Girl's High School in West Bengal's Cooch Behar district.

Opposition protests

Opposition parties in the State continued to hit the streets in protest against irregularities in appointments made by WBSSC. Supporters of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) held protests at Bikash Bhawan, the headquarters of State Education Department. Activists of AIDSO (All India Democratic Students Organisation) held protests at Hazra crossing near the residence of Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee.

Centre executes two orders of J&K Delimitation Commission

Jammu will have 43 Assembly seats whereas Kashmir division will have 47 seats

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The newly redrawn boundaries, names and the number of Assembly constituencies in Jammu and Kashmir (J&K), as ordered by the Delimitation Commission, will come into effect from May 20, the Law Ministry said on Friday.

The panel's two orders – one issued on March 14 that dealt with the number of constituencies reserved for various categories and the second one, of May 5, dealing with the size of each constituency – will come into effect together from May 20.

This will be the first step towards restoring the electoral process in the Union Territory (UT) of J&K that has retained its erstwhile legislative Assembly.

The J&K Delimitation panel was chaired by Justice (retd.) Ranjana Prakash Desai.

"In exercise of the powers conferred by Sub-Sections (2) and (3) of section 62 of the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019 (34 of 2019), the Central Government hereby appoints the 20th day of May, 2022, as the date on which the orders of the Delimitation Commission, Order No. 1, dated the 14th March, 2022 and Order No. 2, dated the 5th May, 2022,... shall take effect," the Law Ministry notification said. The Delimitation panel has given six additional Assembly seats to the Jammu region, one to the Kashmir Valley and brought areas of Rajouri and Poonch under the Anantnag Parliamentary constituency. While the Jammu division will now have 43 Assembly seats, and Kashmir 47 in the 90-member house

Former Chief Election Commissioner Sushil Chandra, in an earlier interview, had told *The Hindu* that the process of redrawing of Assembly constituencies by the Delimitation panel was done in accordance with the aspirations of the people of the Union Territory and in an "inclusive and participative manner".

The former CEC had said that once the Centre notified a date for the Commission's order to come into effect, the Election Commission would have to rationalise the polling stations and revise the electoral rolls before conducting meetings with stakeholders. He said the Commission had visited J&K to interact with stakeholders, including around 800 people during the first visit in 2021 and around 1,500 during the second one in April. "Ultimately, we have to fulfil the aspirations of the people," he had said.

Cong. attacks PM over bridge construction at Pangong lake

A timid and docile response won't do, tweets Rahul Gandhi

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

India's national security and territorial integrity are non-negotiable and the Prime Minister must defend the nation, former Congress chief Rahul Gandhi said on Friday even as his party questioned the 'silence' of the government over reports that China is building a second bridge over the Pangong Tso (lake) in eastern Ladakh.

"China builds first bridge on Pangong. GOI: We are monitoring the situation. China builds second bridge on Pangong. GOI: We are monitoring the situation. India's national security and territorial integrity is non-negotiable. A timid and docile response won't do. PM must defend the nation," Mr. Gandhi tweeted.

His tweet came a day after

Rahul Gandhi

the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said that it had taken note of China constructing the second bridge in an area held by it around the strategic Pangong Tso.

Amid a continuing stand-off between the Indian and Chinese troops at several points on the Ladakh border in the past two years, strategic experts claim that the new bridge could make the Chinese military quickly mobilise its troops in the region. Calling it an issue of "very serious concern," the Congress said Mr. Modi should openly talk about the Chinese "occupation" and forget about his "fake image".

'Very serious issue'

Expressing concern over the matter, party spokesperson Pawan Khera said the MEA should clarify whether China had "occupied" Indian territory. "It is a very serious issue of concern for each one of us and we would call upon the Prime Minister to forget about his own image, think about the country, think about the brave army, which braving all odds of weather and of the enemy is valiantly protecting our borders," he stated.

India slams Pak. Minister's remarks at UN

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
UNITED NATIONS

India on Friday slammed Pakistan for making "unwarranted remarks" on J&K, saying comments made by its Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari in the UN Security Council are a "pavlovian response" aimed to misuse any forum and every topic to propagate false and malicious propaganda against New Delhi. Mr. Bilawal had raked up the issue of J&K, the abrogation of Article 370 and the recent order by the Delimitation Commission.

"Pakistan Representative made unwarranted remarks, which symbolises nothing but a pavlovian response aimed to misuse any forum to propagate false and malicious propaganda," Counsellor in India's Permanent Mission to the UN Rajesh Parihar said.

IN BRIEF

Infiltrator shot dead near LoC in Kupwara

SRINAGAR

An infiltrator was shot dead near the Line of Control in north Kashmir's Tanghdar Sector, Kupwara, on Friday. A police spokesman said a group of heavily armed terrorists attempted to infiltrate around 9 a.m. "The terrorists opened fire and in retaliatory firing one terrorist was killed," police said.

Raj Thackeray puts on hold Ayodhya visit plan

PUNE

Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) chief Raj Thackeray on Friday said that he was putting his June 5 visit to Ayodhya in Uttar Pradesh temporarily on hold. Mr. Thackeray further said that he would speak in detail about postponing the visit during Pune rally on May 22.

Delhi HC seeks CBI's reply in Chitra's bail plea

NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Friday asked the CBI to reply to a bail plea by former NSE chief Chitra Ramkrishna, arrested in connection with a co-location scam. Last week, a trial court denied bail to her, noting that the scam had shaken the financial consciousness of investor, which needs mending to restore confidence.

CBI books Lalu, conducts raids

FIR says substitutes appointed to Railways' Group D posts in lieu of land parcels

DEVESH K. PANDEY
NEW DELHI

The CBI on Friday searched multiple locations in Delhi and Bihar in connection with a fresh case registered against former Railway Minister Lalu Prasad, his wife, two daughters and 12 others for allegedly appointing substitutes to the Railways' Group-D posts in exchange for land parcels.

The searches were carried out on 16 premises linked to the accused persons in Delhi, Patna and Gopalganj. Among those arraigned in the case are Mr. Prasad, his wife, Rabri Devi, and daughters Misa Bharti and Hema Yadav. The case is the outcome of a CBI preliminary inquiry initiated on September 23, 2021.

Rabri Devi, Lalu Prasad's wife and RJD senior leader, outside her residence after a raid by the CBI in Patna. • PTI

It is alleged that during 2004-09, when Mr. Prasad was the Railway Minister, several persons were appointed as substitutes, in lieu of land and were later regularised. The agency alleged that no advertisement or public notice was issued for the appointments. The applications submitted by the beneficiaries were not properly addressed to the departments concerned. However, they were processed in alleged violation of the set guidelines. "...undue haste was shown in processing certain applications of candidates and, surprisingly, within three days from the date of receipt of the respective applications, their appointments as substitutes were approved," said the FIR.

According to the FIR, residents of Patna were appointed in the Railway zones located at Mumbai, Jabalpur, Kolkata, Jaipur and Hajipur, in exchange for land parcels transferred in the name of Mr. Prasad's family members and a company, AK Infosystem Private Limited.

Election body curtails perks of CEC, ECs

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Election Commission (EC) on Friday decided to curtail certain perks available to the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) and Election Commissioners (ECs), at the first meeting since CEC Rajiv Kumar took charge on May 15.

It reviewed the perks and privileges available to the officials such as the Income Tax exemption on the ₹34,000 monthly sumptuary allowance and three LTCs a year for self and dependent family members. "Commission felt the need of observing austerity in entitlements," a statement read.

Govt. to roll out 'Tour of Duty' recruitment in Army

DINAKAR PERI
NEW DELHI

A first-of-its-kind model, Tour of Duty (ToD), for short term recruitment of jawans into the three Services of the armed forces for a period of four years is all set to be rolled out soon, with officials indicating that the announcement is expected later this month.

"All recruitment in the three services will be through ToD route only. The four year stint will include six months of training and three-and-a-half-years service," a defence source stated. Army recruitment rallies have been on hold for over two years now due to the COVID-induced pandemic.

Explaining the broad modalities, a second source said that those recruited under ToD would get salary and benefits almost at par with regular personnel and there will be a severance package of around 10-12 lakhs after four years. Government is also thinking of post-ToD career opportunities as those relieved from service would be 21-22 years, and to award them degree or certification, the source stated.

This move is expected to bring significant reduction in pay and pensions and frees up funds for modernisation especially for the Army, which has a negatively skewed revenue to capital ratio in the budgetary allocation.

मुख्यमंत्री निःशुल्क दवा योजना

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
Government of Rajasthan
RMSCL
"Mukhyamantri Nishulak DavaYojana"
Gandhi Block, Swasthya Bhawan, Tilak Marg, Jaipur – 302005, India
Phone No: 0141-2228066, 2228064 Website: www.rmsc.health.rajasthan.gov.in
CIN:U24232RJ2011SGC035067 E-mail: edprmsc@nic.com
F.02(118)/RMSCL/Proc./S&S(MD)/NIB-07/2022/397 Dated: 10.05.2022

Notice Inviting Short Term E-Bids

Short term E-bids for Rate Contract cum Supply and Empanelment of Surgical (Drug Items) are invited up to 10.00 AM of 23.05.2022. E-bid Details of NIB-07/2022 may be seen in the Bidding Documents at our office or at the website of State Public procurement Portal (UBN MSC2223GLRC00012) http://sppp.raj.nic.in , www.dipronline.org , http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in ., www.rmsc.rajasthan.health.gov.in and may be downloaded from there.

Note:- If any amendment is carried out in the tender specifications and terms & conditions following pre-bid meeting, the same will be uploaded on the Departmental website www.rmsc.health.rajasthan.gov.in , sppp.raj.nic.in and https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in. In case any inconvenience is felt, please contact on telephone number i.e. 0141-2228064

Raj.Samwad/C/22/2085 Executive Director (Procurement), RMSCL

ICMR - NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EPIDEMIOLOGY
R-127, Second Main Road, TNHB, Ayapakkam, Chennai – 600077.

ONLINE / WALK-IN INTERVIEW

Candidates are invited for Online/ Walk-in Interview for the post of Project Scientist-B (Non-Medical) (Lab), Project Junior Consultant, Project Consultant (Epidemiology), Project Junior Consultant (Epidemiology), Project Assistant (admin), Project Assistant, Project Junior Nurse, Project Staff Nurse, Project Technical Assistant, Project Technical Assistant (Statistics), Project Consultant - I & II, Project Scientist-C (Medical/Non-medical) on contract basis under various projects.

For application proforma and other details regarding qualification and experience, etc., please refer to **www.nie.gov.in**

Director

THE SINGARENI COLLIERIES COMPANY LIMITED
(A Government Company)
Regd. Office : KOTHAGUDEM - 507101, Telangana

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

The Singareni Collieries Company Limited would like to invite EOI from the firms with sound financial strengths and experience in earth excavation activities for excavation/ extraction of 1,200 million cu.m. of Overburden over next 5 years in the existing and upcoming 8 opencast mines (VK OC & Penagadappa OC in Kothagudem Area, JK OC in Yellandu Area, RG Coal mine in RG III Area, Tadicherla OC II & Venkatapur OC in BHPL Area, Goleti OC & MVK OC in Bellampalli Area) and other areas.

Interested firms may furnish their EOI along with their areas of operations and financial turnover, networth etc.,

The documents shall reach the following addresses on or before 4th June 2022.

1. GM (Co-ordination)
Singareni Collieries Company Ltd., Singareni Bhawan, Red Hills, P.B. No.18, P.O: Khairathabad - 500004 - HYDERABAD, Telangana State, India.
Tel No. : (040) - 23391761
Email ID : **so_cmd@scclmines.com**

2. GM (Business Development)
Singareni Collieries Company Ltd., P.O: Kothagudem Collieries- 507101, Bhadradri Kothagudem Dist. Telangana State, India.
Tel No.:(08744) 245007
Cell No. : 09491144647
Email ID : **cgm_bd@scclmines.com**

A copy of the notification can be seen on our website www.scclmines.com

PR/2022-23/CRP/BD/EoI/12 Sd/- General Manager
DIPR No.151 PP/CL-Agency/ADVT/1/2022-23, Date:20-05-2022 Corporate Planning & Projects

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NATIONAL BOARD FOR HIGHER MATHEMATICS (NBHM)
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
MUMBAI - 400 001

Advt. No. 01-A/IMSc/2022 May 19, 2022

NBHM invites applications exclusively online for its **Doctoral Scholarship Written Test** to be held on **Saturday, 18 June 2022**. The test scores are also used by several institutions to screen candidates for admission to their Ph.D. and Integrated Ph.D. programmes. For details, visit **https://www.imsc.res.in/nbhm/**

Sd/-
REGISTRAR
IMSc, Chennai

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY - e-Tender Notice

Tender No : Re/T No.30 & 31/2022-23/SE/Q. (1) NABARD - RIDF XXVII - CWSS to Kunnathoor, Poruvazhy, Sooranad North Panchayaths in Kunnathoor Taluk and Thazhava, Thodiyoor, Kulasekharapuram Panchayaths in Karunagappally Taluk - Construction of 10M Dia Intake well Cum Pump House, Approach bridge, Sub station building etc. near Njankadav (Right Bank), 900 mm DI K9 RWPM, Supply erection & commissioning of Raw water pump set, transformer etc and allied work (2) JJM Vellikkavala Part III supplying and laying distribution network, FHTCs, construction of compound wall and approach road and maintenance of existing water tank. EMD: Rs. 500000. Tender fee : Rs. 15000+2700 (18% GST-It will be paid by the contractor on reverse charge basis while filing his returns). Last Date for submitting Tender : 14-06-2022 02:00 pm. Phone : 04742745293. Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in.

KWA-JB-GL-6-236-2022-23 Superintending Engineer, PH Circle, Kollam

OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER, PHED, REGION BIKANER
Tel: 0151-2226451 Fax.: -151-2202785
e-mail : rj_acebi@nic.in
No.ACEBI/BKN/Tenders/2021-22/2321-45 Date: 19/5/22

In continuation to this office NIB no. 272/2021-22 there is error in bid/tender process so it must be treated as cancelled & the same with new bid/tender BoQ is uploaded with revised dates as follows:-

S. No	NIB No.	Name of Work	
1	ACEBI/2021-22/272	Rate contract for construction and commissioning of three phase tube well at District Bikaner with Five year O&M UBN No. PHE2122WLRC14808 Estt. Cost Rs. 2100.00 Lacs	
		Revised Date of closing online Bid Submission	06.06.2022 06.00 PM
		Revised Date for physical submission of document	07.06.2022 11.00 AM
		Revied Date of online Bid Opening	07.06.2022 11.30 AM

(Ajay Kumar Sharma)
Additional Chief Engineer
PHED, Region-Bikaner

APPOINTMENT

TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS : TIRUPATI
Tirupati District, Andhra Pradesh.
Office of the Chief Engineer **e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE**
Adv.No.11/03/CE/TTD/2022-23 19/05/2022

e-tenders invited on e-procurement for the following work of TTD Engineering Department.

Sl. No.	NIT No.	Name of the work	Estimate Amount Rs. in Lakhs & Time for Completion	Schedule Download Start Date	Download End Date & Last date for Bid Submission
1	2	3	4	5	6
Superintending Engineer-II					
1	72/ SE-II/ TTD/ 2022-23	Supply, Erection, Testing and Commissioning of packaged type compact substation (11KV/433V, 500 KVA), 11 KV VCBs HT OH Lines & Towers to meet additional water heater loads at various locations in Tirumala (Part-A Compct sub-station and items)	Mixed tender (percentage + open tender items) 6 Months	20-05-22	04-06-22 1.00 p.m. & 3.00 p.m.

Note: For full details log on to the website https://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in/ or http:/www.apeprocurement.gov.in/

Roc.No.PR4/13942/Adv.No.62/PRO/2022, Dated:20-05-2022 EXECUTIVE OFFICER

JODHPUR VIDYUT VITARAN NIGAM LIMITED, JODHPUR
(MATERIAL MANAGEMENT & CONTRACT WING)
NEW POWER HOUSE, INDUSTRIAL AREA, JODHPUR-342003
PHONE: (0291) 2742221 FAX: (0291) 2746539

E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE

E-Procurement Tender is invited for purchase of 11 KV CT PT Sets of ratio 75/5 Amp, 30/5 Amp and 7.5/5 Amp. Under TN-1810 (UBN JVV2223GLOB00075) and 33 KV Horn Gap Fuse Sets with PI Under TN-1811 (UBN JVV2223GLOB00076).

Details regarding Quantity, Tender cost, Bid Security, Schedule date of tender opening for aforesaid tenders are available on our website at www.energy.rajasthan.gov.in/jdvvnl and also at http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (MM&C)
Raj.Samwad/C/22/2099 बिजली संबंधी शिकायतों के लिए टोल फ्री नम्बर 1800 180 6045

TAMILNADU NEWSPRINT AND PAPERS LIMITED
Unit - 1: Kagithapuram - 639 136, Karur Dist. Tamil Nadu. Ph.: 04324 - 277001 (10 Lines)
Unit - 2: Mondipatti - 621 306, Trichy District, Tamil Nadu. Ph.: 04332 - 261600

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

Tender No.	Material Description	Due date
222313 000959	Procurement of 300GSM Circular Grey Board Disc 95CM/97 CM for Unit-1 & Unit-2-120 MT	31.05.2022
222313 000974	Procurement of Maize Based Native Starch (in Jumbo Bags) for Unit 1	03.06.2022
222313 001014	Enlistment of 3rd party Independent Inspection Agency for sampling and analysis of imported Coal / Limestone at Discharge port and at TNPL Lab	04.06.2022
222313 000987	Steaming (Non-Coking) Coal in Bulk (Imported) with 4200 GAR of Indonesian origin	04.06.2022
222323 000623	Transportation of Raw lignite from NLC India Ltd., Neyveli to TNPL Unit-2 at Mondipatti, Manapparai.	03.06.2022
222323 000627	Native Starch (Maize based) for TNPL Unit-2	03.06.2022
222323 000610	Cationic Starch (Maize based) for TNPL Unit-2	06.06.2022
222323 000626	Sodium Bicarbonate (Food grade) for TNPL Unit-2	07.06.2022
Email:	222313000959 - purchase.packing@tnpl.co.in 222313000974 - purchase.rawmatl@tnpl.co.in 222313001014, 0987 - purchase.fuel@tnpl.co.in 222323000623 - purchaseimp.u2@tnpl.co.in 222323000627, 0610, 0626 - purchaserm.u2@tnpl.co.in	

Corrigendum if any will be issued in TNPL Website only.
Detailed terms & conditions, Tender fee, EMD, etc., are available in tender document at our websites : www.tnpl.com / www.tenders.tn.gov.in.

DIPR/2406/Tender/2022 TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper
"சொத்தை கட்டுத் தைத்தால் ஆரோக்கியம், சுகாதார மிக்க சமூகம் படைப்போம்."

KARNATAKA STATE MEDICAL SUPPLIES CORPORATION LIMITED (R)
Public Health Institute, Sheshadri Road, Opp. S.J.P. College, K.R. Circle, Bangalore-560001. Email: md.ksmscl@gmail.com / md.ksmscl@karnatakagov.com

No:HFW/KSMSCL/TND/DRUGS/INJECTIONS/04/2022-23 Date: 20-05-2022

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Ref: 1) Tender Notification No: HFW/KSMSCL/TND/DRUGS/INJECTIONS/04/ 2022-23, Date: 20-05-2022 (IND-950).
2) Tender Notification No: HFW/KSMSCL/TND/DRUGS/INJECTIONS/05/ 2022-23, Date: 20-05-2022 (IND-951).

Nation wide Tender is invited through **e-Tendering system** under KTPP Act 1999 and Rules 2000 for the following tenders:
1) Tender for Supply of Drugs for Health Institution.
2) Tender for Supply of Drugs for Health Institution

The tenderers who have registered under e-Procurement department may participate through e-Tendering system. Details regarding EMD, Terms and Conditions and other information are available in the Tender Document, which can be downloaded from the Website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in from 20-05-2022 to 20-06-2022** the eligible tenderers shall submit their e-tenders under e-Procurement platform for above mentioned tenders. Further information if any may be obtained from this office.

Sd/- Managing Director
KSMSCL, Bengaluru.
DIPR/CP/594/Advertor/2022-23

HAVE SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19? CALL APTHAMITRA ON 14410
Wear Mask | Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग,
वृत्त डीडवाना (नागौर)

क्रमांक:- अधी.अभि. / निविदा / डी- 454 दिनांक:- 13.05.2022
NIB No.:- PWD2223A0464
विषय:-निविदा सूचना संख्या 01 वर्ष 2022-23 के अन्तर्गत भवन निर्माण कार्य बाबत

राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से वर्ष 2022-23 के तहत एक भवन कार्य के लिए उपयुक्त श्रेणी में सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग राजस्थान में पंजीकृत संवेदकों एवं केन्द्रीय /राज्य सरकार व उनके अधिकृत उपक्रमों / केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग /डाक एवं दूर संचार विभाग / रेल्वे इत्यादि में पंजीकृत संवेदकों, जो कि राजस्थान सरकार के एए श्रेणी के संवेदकों के समकक्ष हो, से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में कुल 01 कार्य जिसकी लागत राशि रू. 465.00 लाख है, के लिए ई-टेण्डरिंग प्रक्रिया हेतु ऑनलाईन निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

निविदा कार्य एवं अपलोड करने की तारीख एवं समय	सोमवार 23 मई, 2022 प्रातः 9.30 बजे से शुक्रवार 03 जून, 2022 सायं : 6.00 बजे तक।

निविदा से सम्बन्धित समस्त विवरण www.dipronline.org पर एवं निविदा दस्तावेज का विवरण वेबसाईट http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in एवं sppp.raj.nic.in पर देखा जा सकता है। सम्पूर्ण निविदा प्रक्रिया http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर ऑनलाईन सम्पादित की जायेगी।

UBN No. : PWD2223WSOB01620

(अशोक जांगिड़),
अधीक्षण अभियन्ता,
सा.नि.वि., वृत्त डीडवाना

DIPR/C/6889/2022

National Institute of Rural Development
(An Organization of the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India)
Rajendranagar, Hyderabad – 500 030

NIRD&PR is a premier Institute of National and International repute in terms of capacity-building and research in the realm of Rural Development and related aspects. The National Rural Livelihoods Mission Resource Cell of NIRDPR (NRLMRC) is the National Resource Cell of DAY-NRLM, Ministry of Rural Development, Govt. of India.

The Institute proposes to engage the services of suitable candidates on contract basis for the various project positions on project mode for NRLMRC. Applications are invited from the interested candidates for the following positions. All the positions are in NRLMRC Hyderabad except for one position of Dy. Director, which is in Guwahati.

Sl.No.	Name of the Post	No. of post(s)
1	Deputy Director	02
2	Mission Manager-IBCB	01
3	Mission Manager-SI&SD	01
4	Mission Manager-Non-Farm Livelihoods	01
5	Mission Manager-Farm Livelihoods	01
6	Mission Executive-IBCB	01
7	Mission Executive- SI&SD	01
8	Mission Executive- Financial Inclusion	01
9	Mission Executive- Farm Livelihoods	01
10	Mission Executive- Non-Farm Livelihoods	01
11	Junior Mission Executive	01
12	Accounts Officer	01
13	Office Assistant	01

Last date for submission of online application is **13th June, 2022.**
For each position, detailed terms of reference, job description, age limit, qualification, experience, remuneration, online registration, application submission and other details, please visit: **http://career.nirdpr.in/**

Advt.No.18/2022
File No: NIRD&PR-NRLMRC/REC/2018-19 Sd/-
Comp.no. E 7106 Assistant Registrar (E)

Jharkhand govt. moves SC in mining case

It challenges plea seeking probe

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
RANCHI

The Jharkhand government on Thursday informed the High Court that it has moved the Supreme Court challenging a plea seeking probes by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and the Enforcement Directorate (ED) into the mining lease allegedly granted to Chief Minister Hemant Soren and some shell companies operated by his family members and associates.

Hemant Soren

Appearing on behalf of the State, advocate Kapil Sibal told a division Bench, comprising Chief Justice Dr. Ravi Ranjan and Justice Sujit Narayan Prasad, that the High Court should take up the matter only after it is heard by the apex court.

"We have gone through the sealed reports of the Enforcement Directorate (ED) and *prima facie* feel it is a case in interest of the public and the PIL ought to be heard," the Bench observed earlier.

Mr. Sibal said that the government has not been given a copy of the report furnished by the ED. Replying to the statement, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the ED, said the agency cannot provide documents to anyone except the court till the investigation is pending.

Excavation for Nechiphu tunnel over

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Border Road Organisation (BRO) on Friday conducted the final "breakthrough blast", which marks the successful completion of excavation work of the Nechiphu Tunnel in Arunachal Pradesh.

The blast was remotely conducted by BRO Director General Lt. Gen. Rajeev Chaudhry from New Delhi, a Defence Ministry statement said. The foundation stone of the project was laid by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on October 12, 2020.

The Nechiphu Tunnel, at an altitude of 5,700 feet, is a unique 500-metre-long "D-shaped, single tube double lane tunnel" on the Balipara-Charduar-Tawang (BCT) Road in West Kameng district and will accommodate two-way traffic.

States, UTs told to expedite pace of COVID-19 vaccine coverage

Centre asks to saturate eligible beneficiaries, use 'first expiry, first out' principle

BINDU SHAJAN PERAPPADAN
NEW DELHI

The Union Health Ministry on Friday flagged concern over the considerably slow pace of COVID-19 vaccination across the States and urged them to significantly expedite the pace of full vaccination coverage by saturating all eligible beneficiaries and adopt a "First Expiry, First Out" principle while using vaccines.

The Ministry directed that under no circumstances should any vaccination centre or any State government insist on any documentary proof of foreign travel for those who are seeking the precaution dose ahead of their travel abroad.

This was communicated to all the States and Union Territories (UTs) by Union Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan, as he reviewed the status of vaccination with health secretaries and other senior health officials through a video conference on Friday.

Precious doses: The States have been informed about the unused stock of near-expiry doses with them. • R.V. MOORTHY

The States have been informed about the stock of near-expiry doses lying unused with them. Stating that COVID-19 vaccine is a precious resource, they were strongly advised to ensure that there is no wastage at any cost.

"This must be ensured through active monitoring and on the basis of "First Expiry, First Out" principle, where doses that expire earlier should be used for vaccination first," a release issued by the Health Ministry said.

'Mission mode' push

Highlighting the urgent need for an intensive 'Mission Mode' push to COVID-19 vaccination across the country to accelerate the recent placid momentum, Mr. Bhushan said States and the UTs should plan for a two-month long *"Har Ghar Dastak"* campaign 2.0, during June-July.

"The objective of the *'Har Ghar Dastak 2.0' Abhiyan* is to vaccinate the eligible population groups for the first, second and precaution doses through door-to-door campaign, with focus on old-age homes, schools/colleges, including the out-of-school children, prisons, and brick kilns," he stated.

FIR lodged against ex-NRC coordinator

RAHUL KARMAKAR
GUWAHATI

The office of the State Coordinator for the National Register of Citizens (NRC) in Assam has lodged a First Information Report (FIR) with the Criminal Investigation Department against former NRC Coordinator Prateek Hajela, some officers and data entry operators for "antinational activities" during the exercise to update the citizens' list.

The exercise to update the NRC of 1951 had begun in 2014. Of the 3.3 crore people who applied for inclusion, 19.06 lakh were left out due to lack of adequate papers when the draft list was published on August 31, 2019.State NRC Coordinator Hitesh Dev Sarma cited several loopholes in the process of verifying documents to match the family tree of the applicants.

IN BRIEF

Indrani Mukerjea walks out of jail after six years

MUMBAI

Over six years after she was arrested for allegedly murdering her daughter Sheena Bora, former media executive Indrani Mukerjea on Friday evening walked out of Mumbai's Byculla women's prison here. "I am happy," Ms. Mukerjea said. The Supreme Court had granted bail to Ms. Mukerjea in the case on Wednesday. • PTI

3 elephants die in Odisha after being hit by train

BHUBANESWAR

Three elephants, including two calves, were killed when they were hit by a speeding goods train in in Odisha's Keonjhar district on Thursday evening. An elephant herd was crossing the railway track in Bansapani area around 7.30 p.m. when the incident took place. The 22-member herd had been sighted in the area in Champua range during the past few days.

Norms eased for GM crop research

The guidelines exempt researchers from seeking appraisal committee nod

JACOB P. KOSHY
NEW DELHI

The Department of Biotechnology (DBT) has issued guidelines easing norms for research into genetically modified (GM) crops and circumventing challenges of using foreign genes to change crops profile.

The 'Guidelines for Safety Assessment of Genome Edited Plants, 2022' exempt researchers who use gene-editing technology to modify the genome of the plant from seeking approvals from the Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC), an expert body of the Environment Ministry. The GEAC evaluates research into GM plants and recommends, or disapproves, their release into farmer fields. The final call, however, is taken by the Environment Minister as well as States where such plants could be cultivated. The Environment Ministry too has sanctioned this exemption.

Modifying crops: Transgenic technology involves introducing a gene from a different species into a plant. • REUTERS

The GM plants that usually come for such scrutiny are those that involve transgenic technology or introducing a gene from a different species into a plant, for instance BT-cotton, where a gene from soil bacterium is used to protect a plant from pest attack.

The worry around this method is that these genes may spread to neighbouring plants, where such effects are not intended and so their applications have been controversial.

The DBT says the document is a "... road map for the development and sustainable use of genome editing technologies in India, specifying the biosafety and/or environmental safety concerns, and describing the regulatory pathways to be adopted while undertaking the genome editing of plants."

Several approaches

Genome editing involves the use of technologies that allow genetic material to be added, removed, or altered at particular locations in the genome. Several approaches to genome editing have been developed.

A well-known one is called CRISPR-Cas9, which is short for clustered regularly interspaced short palindromic repeats and CRISPR-associated protein 9.

Gene editing can be used to make plants express properties not native to them.

Environmentalist groups have opposed this exception for gene-edited crops.

"Gene editing is included in genetic engineering. Therefore, there is no question of giving exemptions to particular kinds of genome edited plants from the regulatory purview," said a letter from Coalition for a GM-free India to Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav.

Gene editing techniques, the letter alleges, involves altering the function of genes and can cause "large and unintended consequences" that can change the "toxicity and allergenicity" of plants.

Touch and go: Indian Army personnel rescue a man from flood waters in the Jamunamukh area in Hojai district of Assam on Friday. • RITU RAJ KONWAR

Floods wreak havoc in Assam

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
GUWAHATI

Rains in Assam have affected 7.18 lakh people across 27 flood-hit districts and caused widespread damage to private and public infrastructure besides inundating 63,970.62 hectares of cropland.

According to data provided by the Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA) on Thursday, two people drowned in Nagaon district. Floods and landslides since May 14 have so far killed 11 people while seven others have been reported missing.

"So far, 80,298 people including 12,855 children have been shifted to 167 relief camps across the flood-affected districts," an ASDMA spokesperson said.

A defence spokesperson said more than 900 people were rescued by the Army in central Assam's Hojai, one of the worst-affected districts. Personnel of the National Disaster Response Force and other agencies have evacuated almost 7,000 others by boats.

Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, who inspected landslide-hit districts said the Centre has sanctioned ₹1,000-crore for Assam to deal with the flood situation.

Govt. reconstitutes Central Advisory Board on Archaeology

DAMINI NATH
NEW DELHI

The Central Advisory Board on Archaeology (CABA), that is meant to strengthen contacts between the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and those in the field of archaeological research, was re-constituted this week, over seven years since its last meeting.

"With a view to promoting closer contacts of the Archaeological Survey of India with Indian universities conducting archaeological researches and other institutions carrying out studies related to application of archaeological principles and providing for closer association of learned societies in India with the activities of the ASI, the President is pleased to reconstitute the CABA for a period of three years from the date of publication," the notification stated. The board would also include "five persons nominated in their personal capacities by the Government of India" and former Director-Generals of ASI, the notification said.

ED attaches assets worth ₹192 cr. in PACL India case

The firm used funds for personal gains

DEVESH KUMAR PANDEY
NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has attached assets worth over ₹192.51 crore in connection with a money laundering case involving PACL India Limited and others.

The properties include land measuring more than 3.39 lakh sq. metres, valued about ₹185 crore as per government rates, and ₹7.51 crore in the form of bank balances belonging to DDPL Global Infrastructure Private Limited (DDPL), Unicorn Infraprojects and Estates Private Limited (Unicorn) and Brightview Projects and Estates Private Limited.

According to the ED, PACL India was into the business of real estate and sale of agricultural land through agents and local office. It had collected money running into hundreds of crore from investors under various schemes, promising allotment of plots in different parts of the country or payback (on maturity) of the expected value of the land in lieu of the allotment.

Its directors allegedly siphoned off the funds and used it for personal gains by making investments in various entities.

The ED probe revealed that PACL transferred ₹101 crore to Dhanashree Developers Private Limited, of which ₹26 crore was diverted to DDPL.

"PACL transferred ₹2,285.79 crore to one Shri Prateek Kumar, who invested ₹94.61 crores in DDPL and Unicorn. PACL also transferred ₹110.95 crore in Systematix Venture Capital Trust through its 25 front companies, which was invested in DDPL and Unicorn...," said the agency.

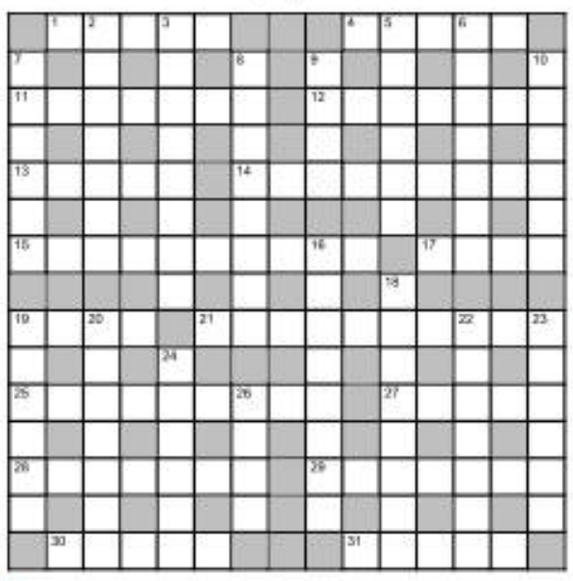
Using the funds, DDPL and Unicorn bought land parcels in Maharashtra. They entered into various agreements with several entities for the sale of floor space index and construction of residential-cum-commercial projects; from which the two entities generated huge profits, it said.

THE HINDU CROSSWORD + 13562

(set by Hypatia)

Display keystrokes of genius. Type your answers in our online grids. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



ACROSS

1 Got a new hybrid vehicle (5)
4 Xi follows America secretly (5)
11 Busy judge losing focus during conclusion (7)
12 Returns to occupy a bar counter (7)
13 Board line moving to the end of aircraft (5)
14 Boycott scores at one ground (9)
15 "Burn" – popular movie review? (10)
17 Primarily get your muscles strengthened in these places (4)
19 Peck, in "Moby Dick", is sensational (4)
21 Crooked crimes may proliferate over time (10)
25 "Jack Spree", introduced by Spooner to local host (9)
27 Inference point frequently in dreams thru REM (5)
28 Time to overcome resistance in order to defeat (7)
29 Novice, for sure (3,4)
30 Daughter and divorced wife provided backing to firm (5)
31 Bohemian in revolutionary plays (Pygmalion?) (5)

DOWN

2 Natural gas mostly stored in iron tanks with carbon (7)
3 Amusement of soldier leading horse to fish (8)
5 Gosh! Am always filled with hot air (6)
6 Studies with youngster, initially, about sex and body (7)
7 President resides in capital – an old city (6)
8 Notice sweetheart taking time out shifts and stays (8)
9 Inclination for hypocrisy (4)
10 Moms heading out to rest (6)
16 Crushed mint? A rad ingredient in sambar! (8)
18 Complete a course after school and discharge (4,4)
19 Interfere just a little in Kazakhstan (6)
20 Shortened sargam in versatile instrument (7)
22 Stranger stops others at school and checks again (7)
23 Setter in vehicle with a moviemaker (6)
24 Dirty filter's half immersed in river (6)
26 Likes insults (4)

SUDOKU

		7			8			9
				4	5	6		
2			9					4
1	8					2		
			7	3	6			
		3					9	6
6					7			8
		9	4	6				
7			1			4		

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

Solution to puzzle 13561

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

8	9	3	6	4	7	1	2	5
4	2	6	1	5	3	8	7	9
7	1	5	9	8	2	3	6	4
2	7	9	5	1	8	4	3	6
6	5	4	2	3	9	7	1	8
3	8	1	4	7	6	9	5	2
5	3	2	7	9	4	6	8	1
9	6	7	8	2	1	5	4	3
1	4	8	3	6	5	2	9	7

FAITH

Worship of the Goddess

In his Abirami Andadi, Abirami Bhattar recalls the kindness of Goddess Parvathi who fed Gnanasambandar Her milk. The child was crying in hunger, and the Goddess, Universal Mother that She is, fed the crying child. As a result, Gnanasambandar became a jnani even in his infancy. Bhattar prays that Goddess Abirami should appear before him, with her pearl strands, Her bow made of sugarcane, Her arrows made of flowers, and Her smile. If this verse of Abirami Andadi is recited before children leave for school, it will help them do well academically, explained M.A. Manickavelu in a discourse.

Whatever activity we may be engaged in, our thoughts must be of Her. We should think of Her whether we are standing or are seated, says Bhattar. Whenever we are awake, obviously, we are aware of our identity, of who we are. But what is more important than this, is for us to identify ourselves as Her children. After telling us about worship with one's manas, Bhattar talks about worship with one's body. We must use our hands to do an anjali to Her and to offer flowers to Her. We must use our legs to circumambulate Her. One's head must be placed at Her feet. Not only should the manas and body be pressed into worship of Ambal, but our words too must be in praise of Her.

Bhattar does not directly talk of worshipping through one's words. But he speaks of "ezhudaa marai." That means the unwritten sacred works, which is a reference to the Vedas. Education does not lie in mere reading and writing. It lies in using words to praise Her. Bhattar here emphasises that the Goddess is the essence of the Vedas, which must be studied. The oral tradition of teaching and studying the Vedas is an example of the use of words to worship Her.

Russia says 'nearing' full control of Luhansk

Ukraine President Zelensky says incessant bombardment has turned the Donbas region into 'hell'

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
MOSCOW

Russian Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu said on Friday Moscow was nearing full control of Ukraine's eastern separatist region of Luhansk.

Russian President Vladimir Putin sent troops to Ukraine on February 24 under the guise of protecting the Russian-speaking population there, especially in the breakaway regions of Luhansk and Donetsk.

Russia recognised the independence of the separatist republics shortly before launching the military action.

"The liberation of the Luhansk People's Republic is nearing completion," Mr. Shoigu said.

Separately, Mr. Shoigu said 1,908 Ukrainian soldiers had surrendered at the besieged Azovstal steelworks in the port city of Mariupol.

Russia claimed control of the strategic city in southeastern Ukraine in late April, keeping the remaining Ukrainian forces blocked inside the giant steel plant.

Preserving memories: Ukrainian soldiers helping in installing a destroyed Russian tank as a symbol of war in Kyiv. • AP

Mr. Shoigu said Ukrainian authorities in early May attempted to retake the strategic Snake Island in the Black Sea that was seized by Russian troops early in the conflict.

"This questionable action turned out to be a complete failure," Mr. Shoigu said.

Snake Island became a symbol of Ukrainian resistance after a radio exchange went viral at the start of the conflict, in which Ukrainian soldiers used an expletive in rebuffing a demand by the Russian warship Moskva to surrender.

The Moskva sank in the Black Sea in mid-April following what Moscow said was an explosion on board. Ukraine and the U.S. said the warship was hit with missiles.

Volodymyr Zelensky on Friday said Incessant bombardment has turned Ukraine's Donbas region into "hell".

Mr. Zelensky's government received a fresh boost as the U.S. Congress approved a $40 billion aid package, including funds to enhance Ukraine's armoured vehicle fleet and air defence system.

Ukraine needs enhanced capability to fend off the kind of onslaught Russia is waging in the eastern region of Donbas, a Russian-speaking area that has been partially controlled by pro-Kremlin separatists since 2014. "In Donbas, the occupiers are trying to increase pressure," Mr. Zelensky said in his video address. "There's hell, and that's not an exaggeration."

In the eastern city of Severodonetsk, 12 people were killed and another 40 wounded by Russian shelling, the regional Governor said.

Mr. Zelensky described the bombardment of Severodonetsk as "brutal and absolutely pointless", as residents cowering in basements described an unending ordeal of terror.

The city forms part of the last pocket of Ukrainian resistance in Luhansk, the smaller of two regions comprising the Donbas.

War trial

Vadim Shishimarin, the first Russian soldier to face trial in Kyiv, has admitted to killing an unarmed civilian and told the court on Friday that he was "truly sorry".

But his lawyer Viktor Ovsyannikov said in closing arguments that the 21-year-old sergeant was "not guilty" of premeditated murder and war crimes.

Sri Lanka expands Cabinet without Finance Minister

Protests continue despite making new appointments

MEERA SRINIVASAN
COLOMBO

President Gotabaya Rajapaksa on Friday expanded Sri Lanka's Cabinet to include nine more Ministers, but he is yet to appoint a Finance Minister to handle the crisis-hit island nation's economic affairs.

A group of Ministers to helm portfolios including education, ports and shipping, health, justice, trade was sworn in, the President's office said, terming the current administration an "all party government".

Defying their party's position, two lawmakers from Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB), the main Opposition, broke ranks to join the new government, invoking disciplinary action from the party. One legislator from the Sri Lanka Freedom Party, which had earlier pledged conditional support, was also sworn in.

Other Opposition parties, including those representing Tamils and Muslims, and the leftist Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna, have refused to be part of the Rajapaksa government, citing the popular demand of ongoing citizens' protests that President Gotabaya must "go home". For 42 days now, anti-government demonstrators

A soldier stands guard ahead of cooking gas distribution in Colombo on Friday. • REUTERS

are camping outside the President's office, asking Mr. Gotabaya to step down.

Friday's Cabinet appointments – following the appointment of four Ministers on May 14 – come amid a series of political challenges for the Rajapaksa administration, heightened by the May 9 resignation of former PM Mahinda Rajapaksa that led to the former Cabinet getting dissolved. The developments followed violent attacks, triggered by Rajapaksa supporters against peaceful protesters, and consequent retaliation by incensed mobs who burned down property of several Ministers and government MPs, including some re-appointed to the Cabinet on Friday. The new appointments have inspired little faith among protesters. They continue protesting against the government and President Gotabaya, who they blame for the country's now-worsening economic crisis.

People are facing acute shortages of fuel, cooking gas and a sharp increase in prices of essential food items. Over the last few days, queues on Sri Lankan roads got longer – some motorists spent upto 10 hours in line before getting petrol – even as angry citizens in several locations blocked roads using empty LPG cylinders.

Aid to the country

Sri Lanka has sought assistance from bilateral partners and is negotiating a programme with the IMF, but the agreement cannot be finalised unless a Finance Minister is appointed, Central Bank Governor Nandalal Weerasinghe has said. The new Prime Minister's office told *AFP* that a Finance Minister "would be appointed next week". PM Wickremesinghe on Thursday appointed Speaker and ex-President of the Maldives Mohamed Nasheed as "coordinator" for foreign aid to Sri Lanka.

India, which has extended nearly $ 3.5 billion in aid since January, on Friday said that fresh humanitarian assistance from India worth $ 16 million was expected to arrive on May 22.

Quad working to get nod for vaccine initiative: U.S.

It seeks Indian regulatory approval

SRIRAM LAKSHMAN
WASHINGTON

The Quad is working "assiduously" to get Indian regulatory approvals to get the Quad Vaccine Initiative (QVI) off the ground, U.S. National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan said. The initiative of the four Quad countries (India, the U.S., Australia and Japan), which aims to manufacture and distribute at least 1 billion COVID-19 vaccines for the Asia region by the end of 2022, has run into challenges.

The Hindu had reported that the original plan, which was launched in March 2021 and sought to supply Johnson & Johnson vaccines from the Biological E facility in Hyderabad, has had trouble taking off due to legal indemnity issues with Indian law, safety concerns around the vaccine, lack of World Health Organisation (WHO) approvals for the facility (in the context of another vaccine, Corbevax) and lower demand for vaccines in Southeast Asia.

"We are working assiduously to get the necessary approvals because we think there still is the need for supply," Mr. Sullivan said aboard Air Force One en route to Anchorage, Alaska. The White House published a transcript of his press interaction. Mr. Sullivan is accompanying U.S. President Joe Biden on the President's trip to Asia – his first since he assumed office. Japanese Prime Minsiter Fumio Kishida will host Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Prime Minister Scott Morrison of Australia and Mr. Biden for the second in-person Quad summit on May 24 in Tokyo.

"But in addition, we haven't just been standing still waiting for that," Mr. Sullivan said. "Over the past several months, all of the Quad partners have worked together to get hundreds of millions of vaccines out into the world, many of them into Southeast Asia, and have put forward initiatives to help fund shots in arms."

"And so, the particular effort to get an Indian manufacturer to be able to produce and disseminate these vaccines has been constrained by regulatory efforts, but that has not slowed the four Quad partners from having a very robust COVID response," he said. "I do think that coming out of this last COVID-19 Summit, where we got $3 billion in new commitments, that the emphasis on testing, treatment, and shots in arms, in addition to actual vaccine supply... that is something you will see reflected in the collective efforts of the Quad going forward as well," Mr. Sullivan said.

China ramps up Russian oil purchases

REUTERS
SINGAPORE

China is ramping up purchase of Russian oil at bargain prices, according to shipping data and oil traders, filling the vacuum left after Western buyers backed out following Russian invasion of Ukraine.

China's seaborne Russian oil imports will jump to a near-record 1.1 million barrels per day (bpd) in May, according to an estimate by Vortexa Analytics.

China separately receives some 8,00,000 bpd of Russian oil via pipelines under government deals.

Finland says Russia is suspending gas supplies

ASSOCIATED PRESS
COPENHAGEN

Russia will cut off natural gas to Finland after the Nordic country that applied for NATO membership this week refused President Vladimir Putin's demand to pay in roubles, the Finnish state-owned energy company said on Friday, the latest escalation over European energy amid the war in Ukraine.

Finland is the latest country to be cut off from an energy supply that is used to generate electricity and power industry after refusing Russia's decree.

Poland and Bulgaria were cut off late last month but had prepared for the loss of gas or are getting supplies from other countries.

Mr. Putin has declared that "unfriendly foreign buyers" open two accounts in state-owned Gazprombank, one to pay in euros and dollars as specified in contracts and another in roubles.

The European Commission has said countries making a payment in the currency listed in their contracts is acceptable under EU sanctions.

However, it says opening a second account in roubles would breach them.

Abide by N. Ireland deal, Pelosi tells U.K.

REUTERS
LONDON

U.S. House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi told Britain there could be no U.S.-U.K. trade deal if it proceeds with plans to unilaterally scrap some of the rules governing trade with Northern Ireland.

Britain warned European Union authorities this week that it could discard post-Brexit regulations painstakingly negotiated with Brussels, including border checks on some goods shipped from mainland Britain to Northern Ireland.

Ms. Pelosi said she viewed the existing agreement as essential to maintaining the 1998 Good Friday peace deal, brokered by the U.S..

"If the United Kingdom chooses to undermine the Good Friday accords, the Congress cannot and will not support a bilateral free trade agreement," she said.

Britain says it is acting in the interests of preserving the Good Friday deal.

Bilawal to visit China as financial crisis deepens

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
ISLAMABAD

Pakistan Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari will visit China for the first time on Saturday, courting Islamabad's ally as his government grapples with a spiralling financial crisis.

Pakistan is buckling under debt, shrinking foreign currency reserves and soaring inflation. On Friday, the national currency hit a historic low with 200 rupees fetching less than $1.

KERALA STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LIMITED - TENDER NOTICE

O/o the Chief Engineer, (Commercial & Tariff), Vydyuthi Bhavanam, Pattom, TVPM

Short term procurement of Solar power for the period from 15.06.2022 to 31.03.2023, through e-bidding portal (DEEP) only

DEEP PORTAL Reference No. KSEBL/Short/22-23/ET-72/19.05.2022

Last Date - 30.05.2022 02.00 pm

Visit www.kseb.in

Ref : PR/MC1/F241/2022

RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND PANCHAYAT RAJ DEPARTMENT

5th Floor, Plot No.1234, KSIIDC Building, IT Park, South Block, Rajajinagar Industrial Estate, Bangalore – 560 044
Phone No. 080-22340387 Email: karnregs@gmail.com

No.: RDC-EGS/69/2021 Date: 20.05.2022

PRESS NOTE

Inviting applications for appointment of Director of Social Audit (MGNREGS), Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department.

Department of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj invites applications from eligible candidates for the post of Director, Directorate of Social Audit. The recruitment will be on contract basis for a period of 02 years. Interested candidates may obtain application format, details of age, educational qualification, experience, emoluments, conditions etc., from the Rural Development and Panchayat Department website: **www.rdpr.karnataka.gov.in** filled in applications along with necessary documents may be submitted **on or before 10.06.2022 by 5.30PM** to the Commissioner, Rural Development, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, 5th Floor, Plot No. 1234, KSIIDC Building, IT Park, South Block, Rajajinagar Industrial Estate, Bangalore – 560 044. Applications received after due date will not considered.

Sd/- Commissioner
Rural Development

DIPR/CP\Advt/595/2022-23 **Rural Development & Panchayat Raj Department**

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED

(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No: SEE/EE(O)/AEEE-2/2022-23/F-Tender/878-885 Date: 19.05.2022

TENDER NOTIFICATION

(e-procurement Mode only)

K.P.T.C.L. invites tenders through e-Procurement mode from the authorized organizations for **Providing services of Data Entry Operator for following Offices in the jurisdiction of Tr.(W&M) Circle, KPTCL, Shivamogga. (1) 400KV Station & SSM Division, Talaguppa-2 Nos. (2) TL&SS Division, Shivamogga-2 Nos. (3) TL&SS Division, Chikkamagaluru-2 Nos. (4) Major Works Division, Shivamogga-3 Nos. (5) Major Works Division, Chikkamagaluru- 1 Nos. (6) MRS Division, Shivamogga-1 No. and RT Division, Shivamogga- 1 Nos. (7) Tr.(W&M) Circle Office, Shivamogga-3 Nos.**

For detailed Information and to participate in the tender through e-procurement mode please visit our website **www.kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** hyperlink **"e-procurement"** or directly you can access the tendering website **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** on or **after 11.00 AM** on **21.05.2022**. Any other details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer, (Elecl)., Transmission(W&M) Circle, KPTCL, Shanta Mansion, 1st Floor, Gandhinagar, Shivamogga. TeleFax: 08182-272624

HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

M.S.Building, Bangalore

E-No:ED/272/UBV/2022 Date: 20.05.2022

Selection of Vice-Chancellor of Bangalore University

1. The Government of Karnataka invites applications for the selection of Vice-Chancellor of Bangalore University, Bengaluru, Karnataka as per sec. 14(2) of Karnataka State University Act, 2000 from eligible and distinguished Academicians/Professors with following credentials
   i) A person of the highest level of competence, integrity, morals and institutional commitment;
   ii) A distinguished academician, with a minimum of ten years' of experience as Professor in a University or ten years' of experience in a reputed research and / or academic administrative organization with proof of having demonstrated academic leadership;
   iii) As provided in the sec 14(5) and 14(6) of Karnataka State University Act, 2000, the Vice-Chancellor shall, subject to the pleasure of the Chancellor, hold the office for a maximum period of 4 years or until he attains the age of Sixty Seven years whichever is earlier. Consequently, a person to be appointed as Vice Chancellor shall have clear four years of tenure
2. Persons interested in submitting their candidacy for the Vice-Chancellor of Bangalore University, should make hard copies of the application in triplicate duly filled along with the academic, research credentials and administrative experience, achievements & other details in the proforma prescribed by the UGC within 15 days (including general holidays) at the latest from the date of publication of this advertisement, to:- **Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Higher Education Department, 6th Floor, M.S. Building, Bangalore-560 001**
3. Single soft copy of the application in PDF format should be mailed to e-mail: **kgsheduni2020@gmail.com**
4. In support of unblemished career and undoubted integrity, the applicant who is retired from service, should file a self attested certificate to the effect that no departmental/criminal enquiry is instituted/pending against him or no enquiry is culminated in penalties and he is neither having the tainted service history nor the appointment dispute. Whereas, in case of applicant in service, he should file a certificate of his employer in this regard. The concerned will be subjected to stringent action if certificates are found to be false. Further, the applications not accompanying the above mentioned certificates will not be considered and processed
5. The application proforma is available on the website of Bangalore University, Bengaluru.
6. Incomplete applications and applications not made in prescribed proforma and applications received after the stipulated time limit will not be entertained. This office is not responsible for postal or other kinds of delays.
7. The candidature of those who indulge in undue influencing on the selection process through unethical means will stand cancelled.

Sd/-
Additional Chief Secretary to Government
Higher Education Department

DIPR/CP/Jagadale Advertising/591/2022-23

COVID-19 - DON'T SPREAD RUMOURS, ACT RESPONSIBLY, AVOID INFECTION-NOT THE INFECTED.

Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

Tumakuru City Corporation, Tumakuru

Website: www.tumkurcity.mrc.gov.in Phone No: 2278480, Fax: 2275106 e-mail : itstaff_ulb_tumkur@yahoo.com Grievance: 0816-2272200, 2271200

No:TCC/HS/CR-30/2022-23 DATED: 18.05.2022

Tender Notification

The Commissioner, Tumakuru City Corporation, Tumakuru invites tenders as per the KTPP act 1999 and 2000 through e-Procurement portal for the following services.

Description of work: 1. Supply of Morning breakfast for PKS in Tumakuru City Corporation. Amount putto Tender(in Lakhs):61.00. EMD (in Rupees): 1,22,000. **2.** Supply of Uniforms for PKS in Tumakuru City Corporation. Amount put to Tender(in Lakhs):13.02 EMD (in Rupees): 26,000. **3.** Collection & Transportation of Non veg waste from Tumakuru City Corporation Limits. Amount putto Tender(in Lakhs):21.81. EMD (in Rupees): 52,000. **4.** Supply Commissioning of 10 TPD Material recovery facility. Amount putto Tender(in Lakhs): 36.00. EMD (in Rupees): 72,000. **5.** Supply of equipments required for material recover facility. Amount putto Tender(in Lakhs): 04.58 EMD (in Rupees): 10,000.

* Contractors can download and submit the tenders through e-Procurement portal www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in. * Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and Tender Processing Fee shall also be paid electronically. * For More details refer the Tender documents.

Calendar of Events and other information are as follows: 1. Date of receipt of Tenders : **19.05.2022 to 04.06.2022.** 2. Last Date for Submission of Tenders : **04.06.2022** at 4.30 PM 3. Date of Opening of Tenders : **06.06.2022** at 04.45 PM. Postponement of calendar of events (if any) will be updated only through e-Procurement portal and will not be published in newspapers.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Tumakur City Corporation Tumakuru

DIPR/TUM/131/MCA/2022-23

Shivamogga City Corporation, Shivamogga

No.ಪರಿಸರಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ-2:ಟೆಂಡರ್:05/2022-23 Date:17.05.2022

Short-term Tender Notification (Through e-procurement)

Tenders are invited in Two-cover system through e-procurement portal as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Rules 1999-2000 and Act 2000 and Standard Tender Document procedure for undertaking the following works in the limits of Shivamogga City Corporation. The bidders who are interested in participating through e-procurement tender can obtain the details in website **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in.**

(1). Last date to apply for e-procurement forms through e-procurement payment: **Upto 01.06.2022 (upto 4.00 P M).** (2). Date of opening of Technical Bid through e-procurement: **02.06.2022 (after 4.30 P M).** (3). Date of opening of Financial Bid through e-procurement : **04.06.2022 (after 4.30 P M).** (4). Date of pre-bid meeting : **26.05.2022 (at 11.30 A M).** (5). More details can be obtained from e-portal and other details from this office during office hours. (6). Time for completion of works : **06 months (including rainy season)**

Sl No. 1. Indent No: **131870.** Name of the works : **Demolition of the old building of New Mandli Government Higher Primary School under Ward No. 31 and construction of a new building.** Approx.amount (Rs in lakhs) : **95.19** EMD amount (In Rs) : **1,90,380.00** Class of contractors **: Class 3 and above** Grants : **SFC Special Grants for the year 2019-20.**

Note: Any changes/corrigendum will be published in e-procurement only

Sd/- Executive Engineer (Division - 2)
Shivamogga City Corporation
Shivamogga

DIPR/SMG/No.102-05 zenkar/2022-23

Musk calls sexual assault claim 'untrue'

ASSOCIATED PRESS
NEW YORK

Tesla CEO Elon Musk has denied a claim of sexual misconduct by a flight attendant contracted by Space X who worked on his private jet in 2016.

A report by Business Insider said SpaceX paid the woman $2,50,000 in severance in 2018 in exchange for her agreeing not to file a lawsuit over her claim.

The Business Insider report was based on an account by the flight attendant's friend, who said the flight attendant told her about the incident shortly after it happened. The report also said the flight attendant was required to sign a non-disclosure agreement that prohibits her from discussing the payment or anything else about Mr. Musk and SpaceX.

Mr. Musk, who is in the process of buying Twitter, used the platform to respond to the allegation.

"And, for the record, those wild accusations are utterly untrue," he wrote in response to one user who tweeted in support of him.

MARKET WATCH

	20-05-2022	% CHANGE
Sensex	54,326	2.91
US Dollar	77.63	--
Gold	50,608	1.16
Brent oil	112.43	1.63

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Ports	767.55	34.75
Apollo Hosp	3668.00	36.20
Asian Paints	3109.95	63.05
Axis Bank	673.10	22.90
Bajaj Auto	3787.80	88.25
Bajaj Finserv	12561.70	147.85
Bajaj Finance	5769.60	62.60
Bharti Airtel	687.90	13.65
BPCL	332.80	6.15
Britannia Ind	3450.25	118.20
Cipla	978.40	40.40
Coal India	185.95	4.75
Divis Lab	4304.80	105.60
Dr Reddys Lab	4249.10	119.65
Eicher Motors	2707.80	57.10
Grasim Ind	1488.35	30.55
HCL Tech	1028.85	19.45
HDFC	2201.60	65.30
HDFC Bank	1320.95	33.90
HDFC Life	544.70	16.00
Hero MotoCorp	2590.15	74.65
Hindalco	429.10	12.10
Hind Unilever	2325.95	61.40
ICICI Bank	709.55	19.25
Indusind Bank	896.50	30.25
Infosys	1455.15	28.00
ITC	280.00	4.35
JSW Steel	631.10	30.90
Kotak Bank	1829.15	45.75
L&T	1610.10	62.15
M&M	903.80	21.25
Maruti Suzuki	7586.60	182.05
Nestle India Ltd.	16862.00	767.75
NTPC	149.60	1.60
ONGC	161.90	1.90
PowerGrid Corp	229.05	0.75
Reliance Ind	2624.45	144.60
SBI Life	1071.35	14.70
State Bank	462.40	14.90
Shree Cement	22001.20	-215.15
Sun Pharma	915.65	31.05
Tata Consumer Products Ltd	739.60	18.10
Tata Motors	418.00	19.35
Tata Steel	1170.60	48.45
TCS	3293.00	31.05
Tech Mahindra	1130.90	22.55
Titan	2137.05	25.10
UltraTech Cement	6128.65	56.05
UPL	808.25	-5.75
Wipro	459.60	8.45

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on May 20

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	77.35	77.67
Euro	81.82	82.16
British Pound	96.47	96.88
Japanese Yen (100)	60.48	60.74
Chinese Yuan	11.59	11.64
Swiss Franc	79.65	79.98
Singapore Dollar	56.11	56.35
Canadian Dollar	60.47	60.72
Malaysian Ringgit	17.61	17.70
Australian Dollar	54.59	54.82

Source: Indian Bank

Hyundai set to unveil new Tucson SUV

NEW DELHI

South Korean automaker Hyundai said it would bring the 'all-new' version of the Tucson SUV to India in the second half of the year.

RBI cuts FY22 dividend payout to Centre to ₹30,307 crore

The RBI had transferred ₹99,122 cr. for the nine months ended March 31, 2021

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Friday said its board had approved the transfer of ₹30,307 crore as surplus to the Union government for the fiscal year 2021-22, while deciding to maintain the Contingency Risk Buffer at 5.50%. The RBI did not specify the buffer amount.

The RBI had previously transferred ₹99,122 crore for the nine months ended March 31, 2021 (July 2020-March 2021). It moved to an April to March accounting year from 2021/22.

"The amount of surplus to be transferred by the RBI to the Government appears to be modestly lower than the budgeted amount," said Aditi Nayar, Chief Economist, ICRA Ltd. "However, the tax receipts are expected to substantially surpass the budgeted level, absorbing the impact of the former," Ms. Nayar added.

Pared payout: The surplus appears to be modestly lower than the budgeted amount, says ICRA's Nayar. • GETTY IMAGES

The 596th meeting of the RBI's central board was chaired by Governor Shaktikanta Das.

"The Board in its meeting reviewed the current economic situation, global and domestic challenges and the impact of recent geopolitical developments," the RBI said in a statement. "The Board also discussed the working of the Reserve Bank during the year April 2021 - March 2022 and approved the Annual Report and accounts of the Reserve Bank for the accounting year 2021-22," the central bank added.

Deputy Governors Mahesh Kumar Jain, Michael Debabrata Patra, M. Rajeshwar Rao, T. Rabi Sankar and other Directors of the Central Board namely Satish K. Marathe, S. Gurumurthy, Revathy Iyer and Sachin Chaturvedi attended the meeting, the RBI said.

Ajay Seth, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs and Sanjay Malhotra, Secretary, Department of Financial Services also attended the meeting.

China cuts borrowing rate again

REUTERS
SHANGHAI

China cut its benchmark reference rate for mortgages by an unexpectedly wide margin on Friday, its second reduction this year as Beijing seeks to revive the ailing housing sector to prop up the economy.

Senior officials have pledged further measures to fight a slowdown in the world's second-biggest economy, hit by COVID-19 outbreaks that prompted stringent measures and mobility restrictions and causing huge disruptions to activity.

China lowered the five-year loan prime rate by 15 basis points to 4.45%, the biggest cut since China revamped the interest rate mechanism in 2019 and more than the five or 10 basis points tipped in a poll.

Jet gets DGCA nod to restart commercial flights

Paves way for Jalan-Kalrock ownership

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The DGCA on Friday granted an air-operator's permit to Jet Airways, which allows the airline to restart commercial flight operations after remaining grounded for more than three years.

The approval comes after the airline conducted proving flights for the safety regulator in the May 15-17 period.

With the grant of the permit, Jet Airways has fulfilled all the preconditions laid down by the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) as part of the insolvency process. It had until May 25 to meet these prerequisites.

The NCLT is now expected to transfer the ownership of the airline to the successful resolution applicant, the consortium of UAE-based

NRI Murari Lal Jalan and London-based Kalrock Capital Management.

The NCLT had in June approved the consortium's resolution plan for the revival of Jet Airways. They had proposed a cash infusion of ₹1,375 crore into the airline, which included ₹475 crore for payment to creditors and ₹900 crore towards capital expenditure and working capital needs.

The airline proposes to start operations in the July-September quarter.

Inflation crimps Indian firms as rural millions cut spending

Price increases start to crush demand in the countryside

REUTERS
NEW DELHI

Surging inflation is forcing many poor Indians to rein in spending, threatening a slowdown for companies such as Godrej Appliances which saw bumper sales as recently as March and April after a brutal heatwave spiked demand for its cooling products.

The Ukraine crisis and global supply chain disruptions have stoked prices worldwide, but people in developing countries such as India are more vulnerable to even small cost increases that can wreck their meagre budgets.

"From May we started seeing a drop in demand," Kamal Nandi, the business head of Godrej Appliances, one of India's largest makers of home appliances, told Reuters. "These are early signs of inflationary impact on discretionary spends."

The fall came swiftly after demand from the mass segment had "zoomed up" in March, and stayed good in April, he added.

April saw India's wholesale and consumer prices accelerate at their fastest in years, prompting the central bank to raise interest rates at an unscheduled policy meeting this month, with another rate increase likely next month.

Godrej aims to raise prices when possible to offset commodity costs, but worries that could erode demand in the countryside.

"Going forward, every quarter there has to be a price hike and that will impact demand down the line," added Mr. Nandi.

India said to ship $473 mn wheat in April

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

India has exported wheat worth $177 million in March and $473 million in April after the Russia-Ukraine conflict started in late February to help other countries overcome food crisis, sources said.

According to them, India exported wheat even at a time when about eight nations, including Ukraine, Belarus, Turkey, Egypt, Kazakhstan and Kuwait, had imposed wheat export restrictions. "Still, after the conflict began on February 24, India has exported wheat worth $177 million and $473 million in March and April, respectively, despite facing challenges," one of the sources said.

Japan's Sharp evaluating options to make in India

Firm resumes with water purifiers

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD

Sharp Corporation of Japan, which had shut its manufacturing operations in India a few years back, is evaluating options to make a range of products beginning with small kitchen appliances to refrigerators and air-conditioners through contract vendors in the country.

"Six years ago, we stopped... now we are seeking partners [for manufacturing] in India," said Shinji Minatogawa, MD at the firm's subsidiary Sharp Business Systems (India). He pointed out that Sharp used to make televisions and ACs at its facility in Pune that had since been shut.

As a first step towards making in India, Sharp, which is a part of the Foxconn group, is collaborating with a vendor in South India for making water purifiers.

Over time, Sharp may also export from India

SHINJI MINATOGAWA
MD, Sharp Business Systems (India)

Sharp would evaluate manufacturers in India for contract supply of small kitchen appliances such as juicers, mixers, microwaves as well white goods spanning washing machines and refrigerators.

The emphasis would be on quality standards, Mr. Minatogawa said, adding that over time Sharp may also export from India.

Wheels India Q4 net rises 9% to ₹27.8 cr.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI

Wheels India Ltd. reported a 9% rise in net profit to ₹27.8 crore for the fourth quarter ended March 31 compared with a year earlier. Revenue grew 29% to ₹1,101.3 crore.

The board recommended a dividend of ₹8.30 per share. The firm said exports had crossed ₹1,000-crore mark in a year for the first time, in FY22.

Srivats Ram, MD, said the firm would be investing ₹155 crore this year in capital expenditure, part of which would go into expanding the construction equipment business. He added that demand for multi-axle vehicles had been rising.

SPORT

LIVE TELECAST

NBA: Sports 18, Voot Select, Vh1, MTV & Jio TV, 6.30 a.m.
Archery World Cup: Sony Six (SD & HD) & Sony LIV, 6.30 a.m.
Badminton: Thailand Open, Sports 18 & Voot Select, 10.30 a.m.
Athletics: Diamond League 2022, Sports 18 & Voot Select, 6.30 p.m.
IPL 2022: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 7.30 p.m.
F1: Spanish GP (Qualifying): SS Select 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 7.30 p.m.
La Liga: Sports 18, Voot Select, MTV & Jio TV, 9 p.m.
FIH Pro League: SS Select 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 10 p.m.

IN BRIEF

Tatum scorches Heat as Celtics square series

MIAMI

Jayson Tatum scored 27 points as Boston Celtics roared back to level the NBA Eastern Conference finals series 1-1 with a 127-102 thrashing of Miami Heat in game two on Thursday. Marcus Smart finished added 24 points, 12 assists and nine rebounds, while Jaylen Brown also posted 24 points. AFP

CFC extends Thapa's stay

CHENNAI

Two-time ISL champion Chennaiyin FC has retained the services of Indian midfielder Anirudh Thapa on a two-year deal. The 24-year-old will continue to feature for the club he had joined in 2016 until the summer of 2024. Since joining the Marina Machans, the Dehradun-born footballer has been an integral part of the team's set-up, playing a significant role in Chennaiyin FC's success over the years that also includes playing two ISL finals — winning the title once in the 2017-18 season. PTI

Bhubaneswar ready for Indian GPs 3 & 4

All eyes on men's triple jump as stars training abroad give events a miss

ATHLETICS

SPORTS BUREAU

After two postponements and moving States, the third Indian Grand Prix will finally be held at Bhubaneswar on Saturday. But, in the absence of many of the big names, it is likely to be more of a testing ground for the second rung and beyond of Indian athletics.

The IGP 3, followed by IGP 4 here a couple of days later and the inter-State championships next month, is one of the last chances to qualify for the Commonwealth Games and the World Championships.

Barring the men's triple jump, however, not many will have much hope.

The IGP, originally scheduled to be held in Madurai on May 17, was shifted to Thiruvananthapuram and May 21 before moving to Bhubaneswar.

Primed for action: It will be Srabani's first outing at home this year, while Eldhose Paul will be yearning to break the 17m mark. • FILE PHOTOS

Main attraction

The cream of Indian athletics, including the quartermilers, is currently training in Turkey and is expected back only in the first week of June. As such, the main attraction of Saturday's meet would be the competition between Eldhose Paul, Karthik Unnikrishnan and Abdulla Aboobacker, three of the top-four triple jumpers in the country this year and all targeting to be only the third Indian to cross the 17m mark.

Paul came the closest, jumping 16.99m at the Federation Cup in April but the others aren't too far behind and with all having already cleared the qualifying marks for the major international events, the 17m mark would be a big incentive.

The favourite

Amiya Mallick will be a favourite to win in the 200m sprint at home. Interestingly, also expected to be in action is Srabani Nanda in the 200m, the first outing for the sprinter at home this year.

Srabani has been training in Jamaica for a long time now and has only been an occasional visitor at events back home but in the absence of other major sprinters, should have it easy.

The events: Men: 200m, 800m, 5000m, 110m hurdles, high jump, triple jump, shot put, pole vault; **Women:** 200m, 800m, 5000m, 100m hurdles, high jump, triple jump, shot put, discus, hammer.

Indian hockey team leaves for Asia Cup

To start campaign against Pakistan

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
BENGALURU

The Indian men's hockey team, led by Birendra Lakra, left for Jakarta on Friday to defend the Asia Cup title.

India will be up against Japan, Pakistan and host Indonesia in Pool A, while Malaysia, Korea, Oman and Bangladesh are grouped in Pool B. India will kick off its campaign against Pakistan on Monday.

Prestigeous

"Asia Cup is a prestigious tournament and we will have quite a few players who will be experiencing this tournament for the first time. The mood is quite upbeat," Lakra said in a Hockey India release.

"Our camp in SAI Bengaluru was quite tough and very fruitful. While we got to know more about each player's strengths and improved our on-field communication, Sardar (coach) was also very particular about our fitness."

There will be a lot of nerves ahead of the first match against Pakistan

BIRENDRA LAKRA
Captain

On the Indian team's prospects this year, Lakra said: "We just want to take it one match at a time. There will be a lot of nerves ahead of the first match against Pakistan but we will focus on our own game and get on from there."

India defeated Malaysia in the final of the previous edition in Dhaka in 2017.

Sania-Hradecka in final

INDIANS ABROAD

SPORTS BUREAU

Top seeds Sania Mirza and Lucie Hradecka beat Kaitlyn Christian and Lidziya Marozava 6-3, 6-3 in the doubles semifinals of the €203,024 WTA tennis tournament in Strasbourg, France on Friday.

Other results: $60,000 ITF women, Pelham, US: Doubles (quarterfinals): Maria Kononova & Sharmada Balu bt Samantha Buyckx & Ali Despain (US) 1-6, 6-4, [10-3].

$25,000 ITF women, Montemor-O-Novo, Portugal: Doubles (quarterfinals): Julie Belgraver (Fra) & Riya Bhatia bt Ines Murta (Por) & Olga Parres Azcoitia (Esp) 6-4, 6-4; Jacqueline Cabaj Awad (Swe) & Sowjanya Bavisetti bt Sara Borkop (Den) & Sana Garakani (Por) 6-2, 6-1; Francisca Jorge & Matilde Jorge (Por) bt Sara Lanca (Por) & Vasanti Shinde 6-3, 6-4.

$53,120 Challenger, Tunis, Tunisia: Doubles (semifinals): Nicolas Barrientos (Col) & Miguel Angel Reyes-Varela (Mex) bt Sriram Balaji & Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan 7-6(4), 6-3; Quarterfinals: Balaji & Jeevan bt Michael Geerts (Bel) & Michael Vrbensky (Cze) 6-1, 7-6(1).

$25,000 ITF men, Osijek, Croatia: Doubles (quarterfinals): Lukas Pokorny (Svk) & Dev Javia bt Alen Moritz Hodzic (Ger) & Frane Nincevic (Cro) 7-5, 6-1.

$15,000 ITF men, Cancun, Mexico: Doubles (quarterfinals): Jake Bhangdia (US) & Dhruv Sunish bt Hiroyasu Ehara & Kosuke Ogura (Jpn) 6-4, 3-6, [10-7].

Jharkhand too good for TN

SPORTS BUREAU

Jharkhand beat Tamil Nadu 7-1 in a Pool-G contest of the 12th Hockey India junior National men's championships in Kovilpatti, on Friday.

The results: Pool F: AP w/o Mizoram; **G:** Jharkhand 7 (Asim Tirkey, Aseem Aind 2, Abhishek Guria, Atish Dodrai, Prem Kerketta, Joseph Topno) bt TN 1 (B. Sathish); Chhattisgarh 9 (Vishnu Yadav 6, Jitu Hemla 2, Sagar Suryawanshi) bt Goans 0; **H:** Karnataka 8 (G. Vishwas, C. J. Rahul 3, B.R. Bipin, Desh Poovaiah, M.A. Gowtham, Deekshith) bt Delhi 0; Uttarakhand 11 (Vishal Kumar 4, Rupin Yadav, Rohit Singh Chauhan 2, Suraj Gupta, Rupesh, Raj Thapliyal, Deepak Singh) bt Gujarat 1 (Vikas Yadav).

Compound mixed team in bronze match

ARCHERY

SPORTS BUREAU

The Indian compound mixed team made it to the bronze medal contest, while recurve archer Jayanta Talukdar narrowly missed out on reaching the men's individual semifinals in the Archery World Cup Stage-2 in Gwangju, Korea, on Friday.

The sixth-seeded Indian compound pair of Avneet Kaur and Abhishek Verma received a first round bye and beat Denmark 157-155 and Mexico 156-153 before losing to Estonia 158-156 in the semifinals.

Avneet and Abhishek will take on Turkey in the bronze medal match on Saturday.

The seventh-ranked Indian recurve mixed team of Ridhi Phor and Tarundeep Rai got a bye and defeated Japan – comprising triple Olympics medallist Takaharu Furukawa and his partner Utano Agu – 5-3 (33-38, 36-36, 38-32, 38-36) before going down against Germany – consisting of Katharina Bauer and Felix Wieser – 5-1 (37-37, 32-35, 36-37) in the quarterfinals.

The 39th-placed Talukdar, who led 5-0 at one stage, nearly pulled off a second upset before going down 6-5 (29-26, 29-27, 28-28, 26-29, 26-27, S.O. 10-X) to double Olympics and multiple World champion gold winner and second-seeded Korean Woojin Kim – who saw off Tarundeep Rai 6-2 in the pre-quarterfinals – in the recurve men's individual quarterfinals.

Earlier, Talukdar stunned current Olympic Games individual champion Mete Gazoz of Turkey 6-0, Felix Weiser of Germany 6-4 and Eric Peters of Canada 6-2.

Sachin Gupta exited in the second round, while Neeraj Chauhan fell in the first round.

In recurve women individual competitions, Ridhi, placed 14th in the rankings, went past Poland's Kamila Naploszek 6-0 and Mexico's Olympics bronze medallist Alejandra Valencia 6-2.

She found a roadblock in third-ranked Korean Gahyun Lee and lost 6-5 (shoot-off 9-8) in the pre-quarterfinals.

Women's Hockey 5s team named

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

India on Friday named a nine-member team for the inaugural FIH Women's Hockey 5s, to be held in Lausanne on June 4 to 5.

The team will be led by goalkeeper Rajani Etimarpu while Mahima Choudhary will be her deputy.

The team: Goalkeeper: Rajani Etimarpu (capt.); **Defenders:** Rashmita Minz, Ajmina Kujur; **Midfielders:** Vaishnavi Vitthal Phalke, Mahima Choudhary (vice-capt.), Preeti; **Forwards:** Mariana Kujur, Mumtaz Khan, Rutaja Dadaso Pisal.

Standbyes: Suman Devi Thoudam, Rajwinder Kaur.

Ashwin and Jaiswal help Royals seal second spot

The former's 23-ball 40 takes the team past the finish line after the latter lays the foundation; Moeen's knock goes in vain

The Finisher: Ashwin's calculated assault did it for Royals. • SPORTZPICS/IPL

IPL 2022

ASHWIN ACHAL
MUMBAI

R. Ashwin (40 n.o., 23b, 2x4, 3x6) donned the role of finisher to give Rajasthan Royals a five-wicket victory over Chennai Super Kings in the Indian Premier League at the Brabourne Stadium here on Friday.

The win helped Royals (18 points) seal the second spot and set up a clash against Gujarat Titans in Qualifier 1 in Kolkata on May 24. Lucknow Super Giants is the other team to qualify.

Pursuing a target of 151, Royals were cruising at 104 for three. Leg-spinner Prashant Solanki took out Yashasvi Jaiswal (59, 44b, 8x4, 1x6) and Shimron Hetmyer (6, 7b, 1x4) in quick succession to set the alarm bells ringing in the dressing room.

The experienced Ashwin, undaunted by the climbing required run-rate, managed to hit the big shots to ease the pressure. Ashwin and Riyan Parag (10 n.o., 10b, 1x4) carried Royals home with two balls to spare.

Earlier, Super Kings posted a sub-par total, with only Moeen Ali (93, 57b, 13x4, 3x6) showing positive intent. Super Kings failed to make best use of a flying start provided by Moeen.

The Englishman was in full flow even as wickets tumbled around him. He got going by smashing Prasidh Krishna for 18 runs in the fourth over. Fellow pacer Trent Boult had it worse, as Moeen unleashed his full array of strokes.

The New Zealand left-arm seamer was carted for five fours and a six as a whopping 26 came off that over. An upper cut, which easily cleared short third-man, brought up Moeen's first fifty of the season.

Moeen's pyrotechnics powered Super Kings to 75 for one after six overs. He was helped by some poor tactics from the Rajasthan Royals bowlers, who either overpitched or bowled short dollies.

At the other end, Ruturaj Gaikwad (2), Devon Conway (16), N. Jagadeesan (1) and Ambati Rayudu (3) fell cheaply. The fall of Rayudu's wicket was welcomed by the packed house as their hero M.S. Dhoni made an entry.

Though Dhoni and Moeen took Super Kings to 150, it wasn't enough.

The Dazzler: Moeen unleashed his full array of strokes during his 57-ball 93. • SPORTZPICS/IPL

Day of reckoning for Delhi Capitals

A victory over Mumbai Indians will guarantee Pant's men a playoffs spot

ASHWIN ACHAL
MUMBAI

Delhi Capitals will need to come out all guns blazing in a do-or-die clash against Mumbai Indians at the Wankhede Stadium on Saturday.

A win in this last group stage match will guarantee Capitals a playoff spot.

The side will go level on 16 points with Royal Challengers Bangalore, but Capitals' superior net run rate (+0.255 to Royal Challengers' -0.253 currently) will prove decisive. If Capitals lose, Faf du Plessis' men will grab a playoff spot.

Two wins on the trot

Capitals enter this crucial fixture with two wins on the trot. Australian Mitchell Marsh has fired with bat and ball, while Shardul Thakur picked up the Player-of-the-Match award for his four-wicket haul in the previous outing, against Punjab Kings.

Opening batter David Warner may have fallen for a duck against Kings, but as the team's highest run-scorer this season, the Australian remains a big threat.

TODAY'S MATCH

MUMBAI INDIANS vs. DELHI CAPITALS

WANKHEDE, 7.30 P.M.

HEAD-TO-HEAD
Played: 31
MI 16 | DC 15

Previous meeting
DC won by four wickets, 2022

STAR SPORTS 1 (SD & HD)

Among the bowlers, left-arm wrist-spinner Kuldeep Yadav (20 wickets) has been impressive, as has left-arm speedster Khaleel Ahmed (16).

Nothing at stake

Mumbai Indians, meanwhile, is out of contention.

It slipped to a three-run loss to Sunrisers Hyderabad on Tuesday despite a 95-run opening stand between Rohit Sharma and Ishan Kishan.

With its season going nowhere, Mumbai does not have anything at stake.

The RCB team and fanbase, however, will cheer its every move on Saturday.

SCOREBOARD

CHENNAI SUPER KINGS

Ruturaj Gaikwad c Samson b Boult 2 *(6b)*, Devon Conway lbw b R. Ashwin 16 *(14b, 1x4, 1x6)*, Moeen Ali c Parag b McCoy 93 *(57b, 13x4, 3x6)*, N. Jagadeesan c Parag b McCoy 1 *(4b)*, Ambati Rayudu c Padikkal b Chahal 3 *(6b)*, M.S. Dhoni c Buttler b Chahal 26 *(28b, 1x4, 1x6)*, Mitchell Santner (not out) 1 *(2b)*, Simarjeet Singh (not out) 3 *(3b)*; Extras (w-5): 5; Total (for six wkts. in 20 overs): 150.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-2 (Ruturaj, 0.6 ov), 2-85 (Conway, 7.3), 3-88 (Jagadeesan, 8.4), 4-95 (Rayudu, 10.2), 5-146 (Dhoni, 18.6), 6-146 (Moeen, 19.1).

ROYALS BOWLING

Boult 4-0-44-1, Prasidh 4-0-32-0, R. Ashwin 4-0-28-1, Chahal 4-0-26-2, McCoy 4-0-20-2.

RAJASTHAN ROYALS

Yashasvi Jaiswal c Pathirana b Solanki 59 *(44b, 8x4, 1x6)*, Jos Buttler c Moeen b Simarjeet 2 *(5b)*, Sanju Samson c & b Santner 15 *(20b, 2x4)*, Devdutt Padikkal b Moeen 3 *(9b)*, R. Ashwin (not out) 40 *(23b, 2x4, 3x6)*, Shimron Hetmyer c Conway b Solanki 6 *(7b, 1x4)*, Riyan Parag (not out) 10 *(10b, 1x4)*; Extras (lb-8, w-8): 16; Total (for five wkts. in 19.4 overs): 151.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-16 (Buttler, 1.4), 2-67 (Samson, 8.3), 3-76 (Padikkal, 11.2), 4-104 (Jaiswal, 14.5), 5-112 (Hetmyer, 16.2).

SUPER KINGS BOWLING

Mukesh 4-0-41-0, Simarjeet 3-0-18-1, Santner 3-0-15-1, Pathirana 3.4-0-28-0, Moeen 4-0-21-1, Solanki 2-0-20-2.

Toss: CSK. **MoM:** Ashwin.

RR won by five wickets with two balls to spare.

Dhoni to play in the IPL next year

ASHWIN ACHAL
MUMBAI

Chennai Super Kings skipper M.S. Dhoni said that he would continue to represent the team in the next edition of the IPL.

Dhoni, 40, stated at the toss ceremony in the match against Rajasthan Royals on Friday that it would be unfair to call time on his IPL career without saying goodbye to his fans in Chennai.

> **It will be unfair to not play in Chennai and say thank you**

"Definitely [I will play in the next edition of IPL].

"It's a simple reason – it will be unfair to not play in Chennai and say thank you.

"Mumbai is a place where, as a team and as an individual, I have got a lot of love and affection.

"But it wouldn't be nice to the CSK fans [to finish his IPL career in Mumbai]," Dhoni said.

"Hopefully next year, the teams will be travelling, so it will be a thank you to all the different places where we will be playing.

"Whether it will be my last year or not is a big question, because we cannot really predict about something two years down the line.

"But I'll work hard to come back strong next year." he said.

POINTS TABLE

Teams	M	W	L	Pts	NRR
Gujarat Titans (Q)	14	10	4	20	0.316
Rajasthan Royals (Q)	14	9	5	18	0.298
Lucknow Super Giants (Q)	14	9	5	18	0.251
Royal Challengers Bangalore	14	8	6	16	-0.253
Delhi Capitals	13	7	6	14	0.255
Kolkata Knight Riders (E)	14	6	8	12	0.146
Punjab Kings (E)	13	6	7	12	-0.043
Sunrisers Hyderabad (E)	13	6	7	12	-0.230
Chennai Super Kings (E)	14	4	10	8	-0.203
Mumbai Indians (E)	13	3	10	6	-0.577

After the RR-CSK match on May 20 *Q: Qualified; E: Eliminated*

Nikhat believed in herself, says Sarita

BOXING

Y.B. SARANGI
M.R. PRAVEEN CHANDRAN

Sarita Devi has welcomed Nikhat Zareen to the elite club of Indian women boxers who have bagged the World crown.

"It is a matter of great joy. Nikhat's win will motivate young boxers to work hard and perform better," said Sarita, who became a World champion in the 2006 edition in New Delhi. Mary Kom, Jenny R.L. and Lekha K.C. are the other members of the club.

Sarita, who runs an academy in Manipur, said Nikhat's achievement would do a world of good to women's boxing. "Nikhat had to fight against all odds to pursue her career. She faced many roadblocks and a lot of people discouraged her too.

"But her father backed her to the hilt, accompanied her to most of the competitions and helped her.

Determined

"Nikhat's triumph is a result of her determination and hard work. She always believed that she could become a World champion and has done it," said Sarita.

Lekha, who also emerged a World champion in 2006 in New Delhi, said, "It is a humongous achievement. It is not easy to win the gold medal in a tough event like the World championship."

The way Nikhat came back from a career-threatening injury was remarkable, felt Lekha. "You can't prevent injuries as they are inevitable in a boxer's career. A boxer is judged by the performances during the comeback period which can be frustrating. I went through this phase in my career and know how difficult it is," said Lekha.

Nikhat... leap of joy. • TWITTER@BFI_OFFICIAL

McIlroy back in form, grabs one-shot lead

Zalatoris and Hoge share second spot; Woods struggles through on painful legs

PGA C'SHIP

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
TULSA (USA)

Rory McIlroy fired his best opening round at a Major in 11 years on Thursday to seize the lead at the PGA Championship while Tiger Woods struggled in his second comeback event after severe leg injuries.

Seventh-ranked McIlroy, chasing his first Major title since the 2014 PGA, fired a five-under 65 to grab a one-stroke lead over Americans Will Zalatoris and Tom Hoge with Justin Thomas and Matt Kuchar and Mexico's Abraham Ancer on 67.

Sparked by four consecutive birdies, McIlroy delivered his best opening round in a Major since a 65 at the 2011 US Open, which he won for his first Major title.

Way to go! McIlroy matched his best-ever start in a Major with a five-under 65. • AFP

Woods birdied the 10th and par-3 14th but made bogeys on six of his last 10 holes to shoot 74, while Spieth stumbled to a 72.

Former World No. 1 Woods, now ranked 818th, admitted his surgically repaired right leg "hurt". "My leg is not feeling as good as I would like it to be," said Woods.

Top scores: 65: Rory McIlroy.
66: Tom Hoge, Will Zalatoris.
67: Matt Kuchar, Justin Thomas, and Abraham Ancer.
68: Chris Kirk, Mito Pereira, Xander Schauffele, Cameron Smith, Kevin Na, Davis Riley, Matt Fitzpatrick, Lucas Herbert, and Joaquin Niemann.

Sindhu enters semifinals

Overcomes World No. 1 Yamaguchi

THAILAND OPEN

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
BANGKOK

P.V. Sindhu eked out a 21-15, 20-22, 21-13 win over World No. 1 Akane Yamaguchi of Japan to make it to the semifinals of the Thailand Open Super 500 tournament here on Friday.

The sixth-seeded Indian will meet Olympic champion Chen Yu Fei of China.

The last time Sindhu played Yamaguchi, the match was marred by controversy with Sindhu being penalised a point for "delaying tactics" in the Badminton Asia Championships semifinals.

Sindhu came into the match with a 13-9 head-to-head record and notched up her 14th victory over the World champion.

Hanging tough: Sindhu prevailed in three games. • AFP

ATP to strip Wimbledon of ranking points

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
LONDON

The ATP said on Friday that it was stripping ranking points from this year's Wimbledon after Russian and Belarusian players were banned from the tournament following the invasion of Ukraine.

"It is with great regret and reluctance that we see no option but to remove ATP Ranking points from Wimbledon for 2022.

"Our rules and agreements exist in order to protect the rights of players as a whole. Unilateral decisions of this nature, if unaddressed, set a damaging precedent for the rest of the Tour. Discrimination by individual tournaments is simply not viable," said an ATP statement.

Praggnanandhaa outwits Carlsen

CHESS

RAKESH RAO

It took a one-move blunder from Magnus Carlsen for R. Praggnanandhaa to punish him and post a second win over the World champion in less than three months.

In the fifth round of the 16-player Chessables Masters online rapid chess tournament on Friday, their clash headed for a draw after Praggnanandhaa's 40th move but ended with Carlsen resigning on his 41st turn.

Sudden death

The 'sudden death' for Carlsen came when he misplayed the knight on his 40th move and Praggnanadhaa delivered a check with a threat to claim the helpless black knight.

Having beaten the World champion in the Airthings Masters online rapid tournament in February, Praggnanandhaa's repeat dose to Carlsen kept him alive in the race for the quarterfinals. Carlsen, who avenged the previous loss to the youngster by winning their best-of-four game clash 3-0 in the Oslo Esports Cup last month, was placed joint third with Praggnanandhaa and David Anton.

China's Wei Yi (15 points) leads the table while Anish Giri (13) is second. Praggnanandhaa (12 points) crushed Gawain Jones (England) in the seventh round after drawing with ninth-placed compatriot P. Harikrishna (8) in the sixth round.

Vidit Gujrathi (5) was in the 14th spot.

Praggnanandhaa. • FILE PHOTO: VELANKANNI RAJ

Anand's run continues

SPORTS BUREAU

Continuing his winning spree, Viswanathan Anand brushed aside Kirill Shevchenko and Levon Aronian before retaining his lead with a draw against Jan-Krzysztof Duda in 51 moves and raised his tally to 11 points after the sixth round of Grand Chess Tour Superbet rapid chess tournament at Warsaw on Friday.

With three rounds to go, Anand holds a two-point lead over Richard Rapport (Hungary) and is four clear of Wesley So (USA) and Duda (Poland).

Plucky Everton survives

PREMIER LEAGUE

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
LONDON

Everton staged a dramatic fightback from two goals down to preserve its Premier League status with a 3-2 win against Crystal Palace, while Burnley climbed out of the relegation zone after a 1-1 draw at Aston Villa on Thursday.

Frank Lampard's side recovered from conceding twice in the first half as Michael Keane and Richarlison netted after the break before Dominic Calvert-Lewin's late winner sparked wild celebrations.

Everton is four points above the relegation zone, leaving fourth-bottom Burnley and third-bottom Leeds scrapping for survival.

The results: Aston Villa 1 (Buendia 48) drew with Burnley 1 (Barnes 45-pen); Chelsea 1 (Alonso 35) drew with Leicester 1 (Maddison 6); Everton 3 (Keane 54, Richarlison 75, Calvert-Lewin 85) bt Crystal Palace 2 (Mateta 21, Ayew 36).

Top shot: Richarlison nets Everton second against Palace.

Messi, Ronaldo have a mission in Qatar

Their last chance to lift the ultimate trophy, the one glaring omission from the CV of each

FOOTBALL

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
PARIS

As the football world prepares to head to Qatar in six months' time, this World Cup is set to bookend the era in which Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo have been the sport's two pre-eminent players. At the time, it felt like the 2018 tournament in Russia marked a turning point as a teenage Kylian Mbappe became a global superstar by helping France become World champion.

Masters of the game: Ronaldo and Messi have between them won 12 of the last 13 editions of the Ballon d'Or. • AFP

The future

Mbappe consoling Messi after starring as France beat Argentina in the last 16 was an iconic image of that World Cup. Fast forward to the present and Mbappe and Messi are teammates at Paris Saint-Germain.

Still just 23, the future certainly belongs to Mbappe, who has eclipsed the Argentine at his club this season and has PSG, Real Madrid.

Meanwhile, even if they are now on the wane, Messi and Ronaldo will go to Qatar hoping to seize surely their last chance to lift a World Cup, the one glaring omission from the CV of each.

These are the players who have between them won 12 of the last 13 editions of the Ballon d'Or – Messi won his seventh last year. Both have won a continental title with their national team, but neither has quite lit up a World Cup.

This will be Messi's fifth World Cup. He was 18 when he scored on his tournament debut in 2006. He inspired Argentina to the 2014 final, which it lost to Germany.

Messi, incredibly, has never scored in a World Cup knockout match. All of his six goals have come in the group stage. He will be 35 by the time Argentina plays Saudi Arabia in its opening game on Nov. 22.

Ronaldo has also played at four World Cups and last year broke the international scoring record held by Iran's Ali Daei, but he has never managed a goal in the knockouts either.

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Bengaluru teams win titles

Bangalore teams clinched both the boys' and girls' football titles at the State Mini Olympic Games here on Friday.

Select results (winners all): **Athletics: Boys: 600m:** Sayed Sabeer (1:28.00s); **80m hurdles:** S. Chandan (14.00). **Girls: 600m:** P. Anarghya (1:41.4); **80m hurdles:** P. Harshitha (13.9).

Football: Boys: U-14: Bangalore S (P. Uttam 3, Suchir Aripirala 12, Mohammed Haffezum 42, 43, Satvik Sridhar 47) bt Mysore O. **Girls: U-14:** Bangalore City 8 (Maitryei Palasamudram 10, 14, 33, Tanavi Nair 15, Annika Srivastava 19, 30, Medha Gupta 36, Shloka Krishna 42) bt Bangalore Rural 0.

Rifle shooting: Boys: 10m air pistol: Individual: Jonathan Gavin Antony (16 pts); **Team:** Bangalore Rural (1637). **Girls: 10m air pistol: Individual:** Tishna N. Dhamnekar (16); **Team:** Bangalore Urban (1604).

Naba Nishan and Balaganesh, singles champions at the SAT Sports-AITA CS7 U-14 tennis tournament • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Balaganesh, Naba emerge winners

Balaganesh Patel and Naba Nishan emerged the boys' and girls' singles champions respectively at the SAT Sports-AITA CS7 U-14 tennis tournament on Friday. Balaganesh went on to add the doubles title to his kitty as well, partnering H.K. Darsh.

The results (finals): Singles: Boys: Balaganesh Patel bt M. Diganth 4-6, 6-2, 6-4. **Girls:** Naba Nishan bt Archisha Ghosh 6-4, 6-2.

Doubles: Boys: Balaganesh & H.K. Darsh bt Mohit N.Reddy & Ayaan Tareen 6-3, 4-6, [10-8]. **Girls:** Srishti Kiran & Thanu Vishwas bt N. Indusha & V.G. Kasturi 6-2, 6-2.

Bharath nets winner

M. Bharath's early strike proved the winner as Bangalore Warriors edged ECD FC 1-0 to enter the semifinals of the BDFA C-division league championship, on Friday.

The results: Bangalore Warriors FC 1 (M. Bharath 3) bt ECD FC 0; Bangalore Wanderers FC 1 (Sunil 43) bt Jolly Bros FC 1 (Md. Sajid) 70+3 [5-4 on penalties].

Rapid chess tournament

Champions Chess Academy will conduct a Rapid tournament for in the U-16 and U-10 categories on May 29 in Krishna Garden Rajarajeshwari Nagar. For details, call: Balakrishna Prabhu (9845466416 / 080-29900046.

AUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER/YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

(₹ in lakh)

PARTICULARS	QUARTER ENDED		YEAR ENDED	
	31.03.2022	31.03.2021	31.03.2022	31.03.2021
	Audited			
1. Total Income from Operations (net)	161475	151839	635673	638926
2. Net Profit/(Loss) for the period (before tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	30119	17833	93092	53437
3. Net Profit/(Loss) for the period (before tax, after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	30119	17833	93092	53437
4. Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	21347	10437	67327	35939
5. Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit/(Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	Not applicable			
6. Paid-up Equity Share Capital	16000	15986	16000	15986
7. Reserves (including proposed dividend and excluding Revaluation Reserve)	743620 (As on 31.03.2022)	679988 (As on 31.03.2021)	743620 (As on 31.03.2022)	679988 (As on 31.03.2021)
8. Securities Premium Account	Not applicable			
9. Net worth	741781	684039	741781	684039
10. Paid up Debt Capital/Outstanding Debt (%)	36.37	19.26	36.37	19.26
11. Outstanding Redeemable Preference Shares	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
12. Debt Equity Ratio	0.09	0.11	0.09	0.11
13. Earnings Per Share (Face value of ₹2/- each) (for continuing and discontinued operations)*				
a. Basic (₹)	2.67	1.31	8.42	4.50
b. Diluted (₹)	2.67	1.31	8.41	4.50
14. Total Debts to Total Assets (%)	1.67	3.39	1.67	3.39
15. Capital Redemption Reserve	Not applicable			
16. Debenture Redemption Reserve				
17. Debt Service Coverage Ratio				
18. Interest Service Coverage Ratio				

TOTAL BUSINESS ₹126226 CR

TOTAL DEPOSITS ₹68676 CR

TOTAL ADVANCES ₹57550 CR

NET PROFIT ₹673 CR

PCR 80.27%

CRAR 19.46%

NET NPA 2.28%

*Not annualized for the quarter.

Note : The above is an extract of the detailed format of quarterly financial results filed with the stock exchanges under Regulation 33 and Regulation 52 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the financial results is available on the website of the Bank https://www.kvb.co.in/about-us/financial-performance/ and stock exchanges at http://www.nseindia.com and http://www.bseindia.com.

Place: Karur | Date: May. 20, 2022

For and on behalf of Board of Directors,
B. Ramesh Babu
MD & CEO

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